

FINAL REPORT
ON THE
SURVEY AND SETTLEMENT OPERATIONS
IN THE
DISTRICT OF MONGHYR (NORTH),
1905-1907.



BY
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सत्यमेव जयते



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INTRODUCTION.

THIS report follows the general arrangement adopted in the corresponding reports for Saran and other districts in Bihar to which survey and settlement operations have been extended, but an attempt has been made to curtail its length, partly by the relegation of figured statements to the Appendices where this could be done without rendering the letter press obscure, and partly by condensing into as small a compass as possible those chapters of the report which deal with matters other than the actual progress and results of the present settlement operations. In writing the report I was considerably handicapped by the fact that my personal connection with settlement operations in North Monghyr only began when the bulk of the field work was completed and to a lesser extent by the fact that it was impossible for me to begin compiling the report until nearly eighteen months after the work was completed and the staff that carried it through scattered in different parts of the province. Under these circumstances I cannot begin without specially acknowledging the services of Mr G. J. Monahan and Pandit Rama Ballabh Misra, to whom the credit for any merit this report may possess is entirely due, as practically all that they had left for me to do was to work their drafts for the different chapters into a compact form for publication. The limitation imposed on me in doing so by the fact that the report only deals with a portion and not the whole of a district has made it necessary to cut out much of the very interesting material gathered by these officers from different sources, which did not refer specially to North Monghyr; this will, however, be available and will, I venture to think, be gladly made use of by the officer who has eventually to write a settlement report for the South of the District.



FINAL REPORT

ON THE

SURVEY AND SETTLEMENT OPERATIONS

IN THE

DISTRICT OF MONGHYR (NORTH)

PART I

GENERAL.

CHAPTER I.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

1. THE present report deals with that portion of the district of Monghyr (which lies to the north of the River Ganges, comprised in the thanas Teghra, Beguserai and Gogri-
Area dealt with in this report. and also with a few small scattered areas south of the river.) The latter were dealt with as containing estates, the property of Government or temporarily settled proprietary estates, but as these represent only a minute fraction of the district area lying south of the river, no attempt will be made here to describe the district as a whole. My remarks in this and succeeding chapters refer only to the area north of the river, except where the southern area is specially referred to.

2. Thanas Teghra and Beguserai, covering an area of 237 and 513 square miles respectively, make up the sub-division
Administrative Divisions. called after the latter; thana Gogri, with an area of 796 square miles, is a part of the Sadar Sub-division. Historically the Beguserai sub-division is a portion of Sirkars Hajipur and Tirhut and was included in Tirhut district, till 1832; while in the same year thana Gogri, which corresponds almost exactly with pargana Pharkia, was separated from Bhagalpur district.

3. Rosra and Samastipur thanas of Darbhanga district and Bangaon thana of Bhagalpur district form the northern, and
Boundaries. Kissonganj thana of Bhagalpur district the eastern, boundary of this area; while on the south and west the Ganges divides it from South Monghyr and Patna districts. For portions of the northern and eastern boundaries, the beds of the rivers Bur Gandak, Baghamati, Tilawe, and Lorun form natural boundaries, but speaking generally the boundaries are artificial.

4. The revenue history of this area is dealt with in a subsequent chapter, but it may be mentioned here that for fiscal
Fiscal Divisions. purposes the area is made up of the whole or portions of nine parganas, viz.:—

Akbarpur Rani	Balia
Naipur	Masjidpur
Malki	Bhusari
Imadpur	Badi Bhusari

and Pharkia,

the first four of which correspond with thana Teghra, the succeeding four with thana Beguserai, and the last with thana Gogri.

5. The whole of this area is an alluvial plain in various stages of formation and devoid of any hills; it falls into two main physical divisions, the two western thanas being mostly an old formation the general level of which is well above that to the east, though fringed, particularly in the north, with similarly high level lands, is mainly a saucer-shaped depression, the whole of the centre portion of which is inundated during the rainy season by the overflow of the of the rivers which traverse it on their way to the Ganges, while Gogri thana various rivers which flow through it, and full of hollows which retain water throughout the year.

All these thanas include a strip of true diara land constantly being added to or diluviated by the Ganges floods. Excluding this area it may be said of Teghra that it consists mainly of uplands suitable for the cultivation of autumn and winter crops. To the southern portion of Beguserai the same description applies but in the north-west the portion north of Bur Gandak

The Kabar Tal. includes a considerable area suitable for winter rice cultivation. The centre of this area is occupied by the Kabar Tal, a large shallow lake covering an area of nearly seven square miles, a portion of which is always under water and unculturable, but the remainder dries up in time to allow the sowing of rice broadcast in the month of May, the crop being reaped from boats in November. East of this the country becomes more like that characteristic of thana Gogri, including large areas of grass jungle interspersed with rivers and jhils. In the last few years the grasses have been making way for cultivation of rabi crops and in another few years it is probable that the larger part of the area will be reclaimed. Thana Gogri includes a fairly extensive block of high land in the north where excellent *bhadoi* and *rabi* crops are raised; the centre is the water and grass jungle area, the latter, as in Beguserai, being in process of reclamation; and finally, a large block between the railway embankment and the Ganges is regular Gangetic diara land in which, in favourable years, (i.e., years of late floods), enormous crops of maize are reaped, and in other years equally enormous crops of wheat, gram, and other rabi cereals and pulses.

6. The main rivers are the Ganges which, as already stated, forms the southern boundary of the area dealt with in this report, the Bur Gandak, the Baghamati, and the Tiljuga.

The Bur Gandak runs along the district boundary from near Rosra for a distance of some eight miles due south, and then entering the district flows in a somewhat meandering course till it finally reaches the Ganges near Khagaria, nearly 25 miles east, receiving *en route* the waters of the Bulan and other smaller streams flowing from the Dalsingserai thana of Darbhanga district.

The Baghamati enters the area towards the north-eastern corner of Beguserai Thana passing into Gogri near Bahadurpur whence it flows at first north-east, then for some distance due south and finally east, with many and wide meanderings, till it flows into the Tiljuga near Chautham. *En route* it gathers in the Chandha, a small stream fed mainly by the Kabar Tal already referred to.

The Tiljuga, also called the Kamla and the Ghagri, enters Gogri thana just at the point where the Darbhanga, Bhagalpur, and Monghyr districts meet and flows in a south-easterly direction to Chautham, where, on its junction with the Baghamati, it receives the name of Gogri which it retains till it reaches the Bhagalpur boundary.

Just before doing so it is joined by the Katni which enters the district some 10 miles to the north near Kasnagar; the Katni is itself a combination of three streams, the Tilawe, the Parwan, and the Loran, the two latter of which take their origin from the Kosi. If the courses of the Baghamati, the Tiljuga, and Katni be traced on the map to the points where they leave Nepal territory, some idea can be formed of the enormous area which is drained through streams which traverse thana Gogri.

7. The river system just described is such as to do away with any particular necessity for canals, and canals, other than a few petty channels which irrigate small areas here and there, are unknown. The same causes which render canals practically unnecessary make embankments to keep off flood water very necessary, but with a few exceptions this is a need that has not been met. In the west of thana Teghra a Government embankment called the Monghyr Bandh runs along the left bank of the Bya river from the district boundary to Barauni, and protects a large part of Teghra thana from inundation. Further east its place is to some extent taken by the high road from Teghra to Beguserai and south of the latter place is a short length of embankment known by the name of a former subdivisional officer, Mr. K. G. Gupta, in whose time it was erected. This was recently breached by the floods of 1904 and I understand that it is to be restored and maintained by the Public Works Department. Still further east there is another short length known as the Gogri embankment which protects a small area in the south of that thana. Beyond these and a few petty embankments in some villages belonging to Babu Ram Bahadur Singh, and in the Government estate of Dhanupra in the extreme north of this district, there is nothing in the shape of protective works which deserve mention.

8. The effect of the embankment of the Bengal and North-Western Railway as a protective work is however very considerable, and though the subject is one on which there is a considerable difference of opinion, there can be little doubt that the fact that the railway embankment is unbridged from a point well outside the Monghyr District on the west of Khagaria, where the Bur Gandak passes through it, and again from this point till it reaches the Kosi in the Purnea District, makes it serve the purpose of an embankment to restrain the Ganges floods from spreading over a large area to the north which in the pre-railway days was periodically flooded. It is not my place here to discuss the question whether this is an unmixed blessing to the north, or whether the good done to the north is counterbalanced by the additional damage done by floods to the country south of the railway, but I may quote what was written by an attestation officer in 1902 and endorsed quite independently by another officer in 1903 about a considerable tract of country lying between the railway and the Baghmata River as illustrating the extent to which particular localities are benefited. Babu S. C. Chakervarti writes :—

“My account of these eastern villages will be incomplete if I were to omit the part played by the Kasraiya in this part of the country.

“The Kasraiya was a rather wide pool of water below Garrhia and Farre. Every year the Ganges flood water poured into this pool by the north-west of Banni, and inundated the whole of that part of the country bounded by Chautham in the north, Adabari and Bhutadi in the west, and Borna and Baltara in the east. This flood water has in a manner changed the whole aspect of the country, so to say, filling up most of the ditches and nalas and opening up new ones. Cultivation was given up and people fled from the villages which were converted into jungle. Fortunately about three or four years ago the Bengal and North-Western Railway threw up a bandh across her almost at her mouth in the south of Garrhia which has converted her into a wide and deep pool of water. After this throwing up of the bandh, the jungle began to be cleared and the land brought under cultivation. But it will take some years more to clear the jungle of Tilaunch, Pakrail, Bharra, Maira, and Bhelaury completely. The Bengal and North-Western Railway has done an immense service to the people of this part of the country by throwing up and maintaining the bandh across the Kasraiya, and it was with some consternation that the people heard a rumour that the Company intended building a bridge there. It will in that case be a real misfortune no doubt.”

I refrain from further comment on this subject, as the extent of the damage done by the floods in the last two years in the country south of the embankment is only known to me by hearsay, and I am not therefore in a position to weigh facts in regard to damage against the actual benefit which I have been able to realise by personal observation.

9. For all ordinary purposes, the classification of soil into dhanhar and bhit adopted in the settlement records is the only one of general application. Under dhanhar are included all lands on which rice is grown, i.e., the low lands, and under bhit

the uplands on which are grown cereals and in fact any crop other than rice. Locally, distinctions are made between "balsundri" sandy loam, "kewal" or black cotton soil, and "matiar," clay with a small admixture of sand. Other terms are "dhus" which is practically the equivalent of "blit" and "balsumi" or "balkis" which contain a larger proportion of sand than does balsundri. Generally speaking rice is confined to "matiar" lands, "kewal" is especially suitable for the growing of rabi crops, while *bhadoi* and *rabi* do well on "balsundri" lands and can also be grown, though less successfully, on those containing a large admixture of sand.

10. The average rainfall for Moughyr and Beguserai for the years 1868 to 1872 was 49.37 and 16.82 inches, respectively, and in 1873 the fall at Beguserai was 35.58. For the ten years preceding 1896 the district average was 47.72 and the rainfall at Beguserai in that year was 40.55 and at Gogri 47.23 inches. For the last ten years the annual averages for Beguserai and Gogri are 47.37 and 53.30, respectively. During this period, 1901 and 1903 were years of exceptionally short rainfall, Beguserai returning 37.46 and 25.72, and Gogri 49.61 and 32.91 for these two years, respectively.

In spite of these large variations from the normal, North Monghyr has actually been almost immune from famine. In 1866 and 1873-74 the only portion affected (and that only slightly) was the northern portion of thana Gogri where there is a considerable area under rice; so again in 1891 this was the only area affected and in 1896 even this escaped.

Short rainfall and even unseasonable rainfall are thus, it would appear, less disastrous in their results in this area than in the immediately adjoining district of Darbhanga. The explanation is a simple one, namely, that the rice crop is one of comparatively minor importance, and that, generally speaking, in a normal year there is ordinarily an excess of moisture, either preventing the sowing of *bhadoi* or *rabi* crops in proper season, or in the case of early floods, destroying wholly or partially the former crop; consequently in an abnormal year, when the rainfall is short, lands that would not otherwise be culturable are available especially for *rabi* crops, and from the diara and usually flooded lands bumper crops of maize are reaped which in another year might very possibly have been swept away or destroyed by floods.

11. Under these circumstances it is not surprising to hear that floods are a greater source of anxiety and damage to crops than short or unseasonable rainfall. In Gogri thana, with the exception of a small area in the extreme north, and in the north-eastern portion of thana Beguserai, the whole country is regularly flooded by the overflow of the Bagmati and the Tiljuga rivers and their numerous tributaries. The extent of the flood varies from year to year but, as no attempt is made to crop the area liable to flood except with cold-weather crops, the damage done is confined to years when the flood subsides too late to allow of such cultivation, and this can seldom or ever happen except in respect of comparatively small areas where cultivation is ordinarily precarious. In the central portion of Teghra and Beguserai, floods caused by the overflow of the Bur Gandak, which flows between high and well-defined banks, are unusual and the damage that may be caused thereby to the *bhadas* crops is more than counterbalanced by the increased outturn of the succeeding cold weather crops. In the southern strip between the Ganges and the railway embankment, there are regular annual inundations but these vary in extent and in point of time, and it is in the latter respect that the risk of damage mainly lies, though it is said that in later years, since the building of the railway embankment, the floods invariably do damage however seasonable they may be, because the embankment confines the flood water to a smaller area which is thus flooded to a greater depth than would otherwise have been the case. This is a point to which reference has already been made and I do not propose to express any opinion as to the soundness of this view. The fact remains, however, that the floods of August 1904 and the following year did a very considerable amount of damage both to property and crops; so far as the crops are concerned the damage would have been infinitesimal had the flood come a week or two later, but the serious damage to houses in Beguserai and Khagaria, as well as in numerous

villages intervening, not to speak of loss of life among both human beings and cattle, are facts that cannot be got over and constitute a serious argument on the side of those who demand waterway in the embankment. From a purely agricultural point of view however even a flood so disastrous has its compensating advantage in the shape of a rich deposit of silt, and a correspondingly prolific *rabi* crop in the cold weather succeeding.

12. The Hajipur-Katihar extension of the Bengal and North-Western Railway System passes, as already stated, along the southern edge of the area under report; it skirts the Ganges fairly closely for some miles from Dalsingserai to Beguserai; from there to Sahebpur Kamal it continues due east, but the river is further off as at this point it takes a sharp bend south before reverting to its generally eastern course. From Sahebpur Kamal to Mansi the railway follows the river closely in a northerly bend and from there again assumes a south-easterly direction; the river also takes a similar course with, however, a more marked tendency to the south. There are short branch lines from Barauni and Sahebpur Kamal to the river at points opposite Mokameh and Monghyr, respectively. From Mansi a line is under construction running due north through the centre of Gogri thana and eventually to Supaul and Bhaptiahi in North Bhagalpur; the survey of another line from Khagaria through the eastern portion of Gogri and skirting the northern edge of Beguserai thana to the important mart of Rosra in the Darbhanga district has, I understand, been recently sanctioned. With the completion of these two lines this part of the district will be exceptionally well served by railways; at present communication with any but the southern strip is somewhat inconvenient.

13. There are 803 miles of roads in this area, which gives practically half a mile of road to every square mile of superficial area; of this mileage, however, only 32 miles are bridged and drained throughout, including 17 miles of metalled road; 235 miles are embanked and partly bridged and drained; the remainder represents surface and fair-weather roads.

The main roads are those leading from Rajghat opposite Monghyr on the north bank of the Ganges *via* Beguserai and Teghra to Samastipur and thence to Darbhanga and Muzaffarpur; that from Khagaria *via* Ismailpur and Sisauni through the centre of Beguserai thana to Rosra on the Darbhanga border, and the Nepal road from Khagaria *via* Mansi to Bakhtiarpur and thence north through the Bhagalpur district to Supaul, Bhaptiahi, and finally Kandauli on the Nepal frontier. In thana Teghra and the western and the eastern portion of thana Beguserai, there are numerous branch roads providing fairly easy communication from one part of the area to another and to the railway line, but with the exception of the Nepal road, Gogri thana is practically without means of communication other than surface and fair-weather roads; the nature of the country, the numerous streams and the liability of the whole of the central area to inundation make the cost of embanked roads prohibitive; the difficulties and expense of road-making in this area may be gathered from the fact that in the first eight miles of the Nepal road from Mansi there are no less than five ferries for the greater part of the year; and even in the driest weather, three.

14. It is interesting to compare the existing map of North Monghyr with Mr. John Rennell's map prepared in 1781. The only roads there shown correspond with the first two abovementioned, the former being the main road from Monghyr to Hajipur and the second as now from the same place to Rosra and Darbhanga. In place of the present Nepal road there was a road from Gogri *via* Durya Ghât to Mynatpur (probably Mynan) a village on the Bhagalpur border about four miles south of Sonbarsa, and a branch from that point *via* Sigira (Scronja) to Bangaon. With the exception of this cross road the whole of the area between the Bur Gandak and the Tiljuga (which in those days joined the Baghmati at a point on the Monghyr border) was entirely without roads, and as already noticed the same description applies almost as accurately at the present day, if fair-weather roads be left out of account. In 1854-55 the Collector reported that practically the only road in the north of the district was that leading from opposite Monghyr to Hajipur, a length of 52 miles, which he describes as being

"unmetalled throughout its whole extent" and "crossing many unbridged nalas and generally flooded for many miles of its course during the annual inundation of the country." He goes on to recommend the bridging and metalling of the road as well as of the corresponding road to Patna on the south of the river. Since he wrote in 1855, six miles only out of the 52 have been metalled and the road has been partially bridged, but, as the figures already quoted show, the improvement of communications generally in this area has been very marked, there being now 270 miles of partially bridged raised roads and another 531 miles of surface road in place of 52 miles which, though, the only road worthy of mention as a road, was not bridged or, apparently, raised above flood level.

15. The only line of telegraph in North Monghyr is that along the railway; there is however a Telegraph Office at Sonbarsa just outside the district connecting with Madhipura, Supaul, and Bhaptiahi on the Khanwa Ghât extension of the Bengal North-Western Railway.

Telegraph lines.

Post Offices.

16. There are 21 post offices, one for every 76 square miles. Of these however, six only are in Gogri thana which thus has less than one for every 100 square miles of superficial area.

Waterways.

17. The Bur Gandak is navigable for large boats throughout the year and there is a very large grain traffic from Rosera to Khagaria where the river joins the Ganges and also meets the railway line. The Tiljuga or Gogri is also navigable for boats of considerable size throughout the year, and in 1902-03 the India General Steam Navigation Company tried to run steamers up to Dhamahra Ghât from the Ganges at the Kosi bridge to tap the large grain export traffic of this area; the experiment was however a failure.

There is a regular steamer service between Monghyr Ghât on the north bank of the Ganges, and also, in the cold weather, between Monghyr, Khagaria, and Gogri.

CHAPTER II.

POPULATION.

18. The earliest attempt to enumerate the inhabitants of Monghyr was made in 1802 when a house census was commenced. Early attempts at a census. It was intended to multiply the number of houses by a certain number, supposed to represent the average number of persons per house, in order to obtain an estimate of the population. The result of the attempt is however not traceable. In 1811, Dr. Buchanan Hamilton made an estimate of the population of each of the police divisions of district Bhagalpur in which a portion of the present Monghyr district was then included. The only one of these divisions which comes within the scope of the present operations is thana Gogri, and according to Dr. Buchanan's estimate Gogri with an area of 788 square miles had then a population of 150,700. The figures for Teghra and Beguserai of that period cannot be separated from those of district Tirhut.

The next attempt at an estimate of the population was made in 1869 when the Collector arrived at an estimated population of 843,775 by multiplying by five the number of houses as stated by the local police. The Collector considered this estimate too high; but as a matter of fact, the first regular census of 1872 showed the total population of the three northern thanas alone to be 853,378.

The census of 1872.

19. Various changes in jurisdiction have occurred, and any comparison of the total figures would therefore be misleading. In the following statement the density of population per square mile as calculated from the figures of 1872, 1881, 1891, and 1901 is given:—

DENSITY OF POPULATION.

			1872.	1881.	1891.	1901.
Teghra ...	...	...	671	695	897	966
Beguserai ...	...	...	717	798	774	803
Gogri ...	...	...	439	509	517	530

The total population of North Monghyr at the last census was—

Teghra	...	...	...	...	234,856
Beguserai	...	...	...	...	408,110
Gogri	...	...	...	...	398,913
Total					1,041,879

The large increase in Beguserai between 1872 and 1881 was ascribed at the time as largely due to inaccurate enumeration in 1872; the large increase in 1891 in Teghra and the falling off in Beguserai is probably partly accounted for by changes in jurisdiction; the increase in the former between 1891 and 1901 was described by the Collector as partly due to immigration from Darbhanga. Gogri shows throughout a gradual, but steady growth of the population, and considering the rate at which new lands have lately been brought under cultivation, it is likely that this increase will continue. Teghra has presumably reached something like its extreme limit, and though there may still be some room for expansion in Beguserai, the large percentage of unculturable area will probably prevent the population reaching the same density as that already reached in Teghra. In the case of both these thanas it should be borne in mind that a considerable part of the area is diara.

20. The possibilities of expansion of the population may be gathered from the following table in which the present density per square mile, the proportion of area cultivated, uncultivated and unculturable, and the rates of rent for the three thanas are compared :—

Thana.	Density per square mile.	PERCENTAGE TO TOTAL AREA OF—			Average of rent incidence per acre.
		Area cultivated.	Area culturable, but uncultivated.	Unculturable.	
Gogri...	530	64	18	18	Rs. A. P. 2 6 9
Teghra	966	79	10	11	3 11 1
Beguserai	803	73	12	15	3 6 9
Total	673	69	15	15	2 15 4

Where the population is densest, in Teghra, the percentage of culturable but not yet cultivated land is lowest and is little more than the almost necessary margin for current and old fallows, mango groves, and common grazing lands. In Gogri barely $\frac{1}{4}$ ths of the culturable area has yet been brought under the plough, and much of the cultivated area has only recently been reclaimed and with better cultivation will no doubt support a larger population. Rates of rent also vary fairly regularly with the density of population. In Teghra the average incidence of rent is not much less than the general average in the neighbouring district of Darbhanga where the density of population, however, is somewhat less, but it is still well below the average in Saran, where the population had practically reached its limit long before the census of 1901, and rents showed a marked tendency to become competition rents. On the other hand, however, the rate of rent in Gogri is nearly 25 per cent. higher than in Champaran where the density of population is almost the same, a fact which

suggests that the landlords of Gogri have been able to get some of the benefits of the increasing demand for land in the recent settlements of the waste areas in that thana.

21. Neither emigration nor immigration appear to have had much effect on the statistics of population of this area. In Teghra the proportion of males to females is less than elsewhere (48 to 52), and this is perhaps due to emigration (though the Collector ascribed the increase in population to immigration), and on the contrary the somewhat larger proportion in Gogri suggests immigration; as a matter of fact a good deal of the cultivation in the swampy areas of thana Gogri is done by non-resident cultivators, locally known as dohatwars, but so far as my experience goes the majority of these do not come from outside the district. As compared, however, with the 1891 figures the Census Tables for 1901 show that there has been an increase of some 19,000 in the total number of immigrants, and it is possible that a fair percentage of these have found their way to Gogri.

22. Hindus form 76 per cent. of the total population, but the thana figures show considerable variations, Muhammadans in Beguserai numbering as many as 36 per cent. of the whole proportion as compared with 19 per cent. in Gogri and only 12 per cent. in Teghra.

23. Of the caste distribution the most noticeable features are the very large percentage of Babbans in the two western thanas, and of Goalas or Ahirs in thana Gogri, and to a less extent in Beguserai; Dhanuks, Dusadhs, Koiris, Tantis, and Tantwas make up the bulk of the remaining population, and there is no very marked difference of proportion in the different thanas.

24. From the Census Tables we learn that out of a total population of 2,068,804 persons, 1,394,749, or 70 per cent., are dependent on agriculture and pasturage. Separate figures for the north of the district are not available, but it may safely be assumed that the proportion is considerably higher, as there is only a single town of any size (Khagaria) in the whole of this area, and it is in the south of the district that the large industrial population employed in connection with railways, stone and slate quarries, etc., has been enumerated.

The agricultural population is further subdivided in the census report as follows:—

Rent-payers	...	...	...	1,069,277
Rent receivers	...	...	...	23,718
Labourers	...	...	...	267,868
Miscellaneous including pasture supervision	...	...	...	33,886

Thus the rent-payers who are the actual cultivators form just over 50 per cent. of the total population of the district. This proportion is lower than in Darbhanga, Muzaffarpur or Saran, but it is probable that if separate figures were available for North Monghyr the difference would be considerably less.

25. In this connection, and as bearing on the question of caste in relation to agriculture, the conclusions based on figures collected for 25 different villages covering an area of 10,000 acres in each of the three thanas may be considered. The detailed figures are to be found in the statement in Appendix J.

Over 20 per cent. of these villages was found to be in the occupation of Babbans, and just under 20 per cent. was held by Goalas. Koiris held nearly 10 per cent. and Dhanuks, Brahmins, and Rajputs between 7 per cent. and 5 per cent. each.

The largest individual holdings averaging $4\frac{1}{2}$ acres were those of the Rajputs; the Goalas' holdings averaged just under 4 acres and those of the Babbans $3\frac{1}{2}$ acres.

Mahammedans held less than 6 per cent. of the whole area, and among them Shaikhs accounted for nearly $\frac{1}{2}$, their holdings averaging $3\frac{1}{2}$ acres in extent.

26. The preponderance of Babhans and Goalas who make up exactly 40 per cent. of the total population of this area and hold between them 40 per cent. of the occupied area is a somewhat remarkable feature, and one that had a considerable bearing on the work of settlement. The Babhans are to a very large extent petty proprietors as well as tenants, and have been described as "absolutely unscrupulous, extremely litigious, and insatiable in their attitude for appeal." Mr. Monahan writes from somewhat bitter experience, "They are oppressive landlords and bad tenants. In the former capacity they lose no opportunity of rack-renting their tenants, while as tenants they observe the excellent principle of never paying any rent. Thus in a village in which the landlord and tenants are all Babhan, we get an absolute instance of an irresistible force meeting an immovable object. Though the result of this phenomenon may be unknown to scientists, nearly every attestation officer who has worked in North Monghyr is familiar with it."

The Goalas, the most numerous class in Gogri where no doubt they originally came to graze their cattle, but have stayed to cultivate, are perhaps less litigious than the Babhans, but no less fond of a fight, and as various instances which will be referred to in the chapter on present operations show, they have on occasion showed an aptitude for combination which is not usual among other sections of the population.

With two-fifths of the whole area occupied by people of this description, it is not surprising that the task of the Assistant Settlement Officers who had to settle their real and fictitious disputes, and to arrive at the truth in the midst of their conflicting statements, was no light one.

CHAPTER III.

BRIEF RETROSPECT OF THE LAND REVENUE ADMINISTRATION.

27. The present district of Monghyr had no separate existence as such till as late as 1832, when what had been since 1812 a semi-independent Joint-Magistrate's charge was constituted into a separate revenue charge under a Deputy Collector nominally subordinate to the Collector of Bhagalpur but in practice independent. Ten years later the Deputy Collector was promoted to the dignity of a Collectorship and the district became in name, as well as in fact, a distinct revenue unit.

In order to form the district, various parganas were cut off from the adjoining districts of Tirhut, Bihar, and Bhagalpur, and though the main changes took place at the time the district was formally constituted as such, there were subsequent additions and deductions and the district did not actually assume its present shape until so late as 1875. With the changes in jurisdiction south of the river I am not at present concerned, and in the succeeding paragraphs I shall confine my remarks, as far as possible, to the northern parganas only. Even these are not an homogeneous block as the list given below will show, and the difficulties of bringing together in a convenient form the revenue history of a portion of a district so constituted have been considerable. Much of the material which Pandit Ram Ballabh Misra has compiled for me from the ancient records of the Muzaffarpur, Bhagalpur, and Monghyr Collectorates will be of great value to any subsequent Settlement Officer who may have to write an account of the revenue history of the south of the district, and in compiling the following account for North Monghyr I have endeavoured to do so in such a form that the two accounts may together form a succinct and complete history of the revenue administration of the whole district. I have followed in this account the periodical divisions adopted by Messrs. Stevenson-Moore and Kerr in their final reports on settlement operations in the other North Bihar Districts with which, however, the present report must necessarily compare unfavourably on account of the limitations above referred to.

28. In the preceding chapter a list of the nine parganas included in North Monghyr has been given, and in the statement below I have shown against each its origin and the area as at present ascertained :—

Name of pargana.	Area as at present ascertained in square miles.	ORIGIN.	
		Sirkar.	District.
Akbarpur Rani ...	9	Hajipur ...	Tirhut.
Imadpur ...	43	" ...	"
Naipur ...	81	" ...	"
Badi Bhusari ...	32	Tirhut ...	"
Malki ...	146	" ...	"
Bhusari ...	109	" ...	"
Balia ...	299	Monghyr ...	"
Masjidpur...	31	" ...	"
Pharkia ...	796	" ...	Bhagalpur.
Total ...	1,546		

In the note on the fiscal map attached to the Muzaffarpur Report it is stated that Bhusari is included in Sirkar Hajipur, but I have been unable to find the authority for this as it finds no place in the list of parganas in the Ain-i-Akbari. Similarly Malki is there shown as in Sirkar Monghyr and this, though probably correct, is apparently without definite authority.*

In any case these nine parganas belonged in the Muhammadan period to no less than three different Sirkars or main revenue divisions, and the earliest record we have of seven of them is in the Ain-i-Akbari from which the following figures showing in the case of four the area settled and for all seven the revenue assessed by Todar Mall in 1582 A. D. are extracted :—

Name of pargana.	Area in acres.	Revenue in rupees.	Rate per acre.	REMARKS.
			Rs A. P.	
Balia ...	.....	82,183	.....
Pharkia ...	.....	75,000	.....
Masjidpur ...	.....	31,494	.....
Akbarpur ...	394	4,876	1 3 11	
Imadpur ...	15,091	19,897	1 5 1	
Naipur ...	32,393	41,600	1 4 6	
Badi Bhusari ...	3,280	4,390	1 5 4	
Total ..	54,675	259,440	.. ..

* Since writing the above. I find that Bhusari and Malki are generally identified with "Bhuswi" and "Masdi" which are included by Todar Mall in Sirkars Hajipur and Monghyr respectively.

29. The most interesting feature of the above statement is the omission of figures of area for the three parganas of Sirkar Monghyr, the explanation of which is given in Mr. J. Grant's analysis of the finances of Bengal, which forms an appendix to the Fifth Report of the Select Committee on the affairs of the East India Company. He says :—

"All the other unmeasured parganas in number 61 or 62 including the whole Sirkar of Monghyr, with the hilly and jungly countries of the Sirkars of Bihar, Rhotas, and Tirhut appear to have been altogether, or for the most part, unsubdued and probably unexplored as held by independent or refractory zamindars."

He adds that they were included in the assessment "owing to the ambitious conquering policy of the Moguls, having always in prospect the entire subversion of the lesser as well as of the greater states of Hindustan."

We may take it, therefore, that the assessment of these three parganas was not based, as it was in the case of the others, on a regular measurement but was a rough estimate of the probable revenue obtainable from them at such time as they should become assessable. It is interesting to note in this connection that the prospective revenue so assessed is actually greater than the revenue demand of 1846 and except in the case of Pharkia not very much less than the present demand.

30. In the other parganas the assessment averages less than Re. 1-5 per acre of assessed area in which is included apparently something more than the area then under cultivation. This is somewhat lower than the general average for Sirkar Tirhut and Saran though higher than the rate in Champaran, and we may argue therefrom that this portion of the district was in Todar Mall's time rather more backward than the northern and western parts of Tirhut and the fertile province of Saran, but more advanced than Champaran. The area figures, however, show what a small part of the present district these parganas represent, and the fact that the assessment of the whole of Sirkar Monghyr was purely speculative suggests that the district as a whole was then on the fringe of civilization.

31. The next general revision of the revenue assessment was made in 1685 in the reign of Aurangzeb and this was followed by another in 1750 carried out under the orders of Alivardi Khan, Subadar of Bihar. Neither of these was apparently made, as was Todar Mall's, on a regular measurement and the details are not known, and it is impossible to say what their effect was on North Monghyr though we know that in different Sirkars there were very considerable enhancements.

A further revision was made by Mahammad Reza Khan in 1765 of the details of which rather more is known. Mr. Mahammad Reza Khan's assessments, 1764. Grant tells us that the assessment was made "according to the preceding abstract of the Dawle or gross receipts of the zamindars from subordinate farmers, after deducting every expense of mufassal management included under the heads of nankar, muscoorat, sebandy, etc., etc., altogether conformable to and on the foundation of the last Tumari Jama Rakba fixed in 1750, now to be exhibited in the detail of zamindari and parganatty jurisdictions, classed under their territorial divisions of Sirkar."

Put in rather more intelligible language, the gross receipts of the zamindars were first determined and then a deduction was made for the expenses of mufassal management, the balance being declared to be the revenue payable to the State by the zamindar. From the figures given by Mr. Grant the following details as to the mufassal and sadar jamas of three parganas have been ascertained :—

	Gross receipts.	Net Jama.
Pharkia ...	55,992	8,314
Balia and Masjidpur ...	104,460	4,000

These figures are very different from those of Todar Mall's assessment and bear out what has been said above in regard to the speculative nature of the latter.

32. Another noticeable thing about these figures is the fact that the revenue assessed is in the case of Balia and Masjidpur less than one twenty-fifth part of the gross assets, while in Pharkia it is as much as one seventh. The explanation of this wide divergence may be inferred from Mr. Grant's description of the reduction as due to "alienations and deductions." The latter are presumably the percentage allowed for cost of collection and mufassal management, while by alienations is apparently meant the setting aside of certain estates as jagirs in order to defray the salaries of the district and superior establishments. The distinction between "khalsa and jagir" estates is one that comes down from the earliest days of Muhammadan rule and is interesting as having had a considerable influence on the growth of revenue. It was only natural that the jagir lands from which they had to recover their own allowances should have received more attention from the Governors of early days and their subordinates, and this was so well realised by the superior Government that it was the practice to periodically transfer from the jagir list to the khalsa, and *vice versa*, the result being that a large number of estates thus received the special attention of the local authorities, and the revenue from the khalsa was gradually improved. With the introduction of the British administration of the land revenue this practice of course came to an end, but in the earlier days all the jagirs borne on the roll as it was received from their Muhammadan predecessors were carried on as such, and it was only at a much later stage that steps were taken to resume and assess them. From the figures given by Mr. Grant, therefore, it is to be inferred that the alienations in the shape of "jagir" were especially numerous and valuable in the parganas of Balia and Masjidpur.

33. The transfer of the Dewani of Bengal, Bihar, and Orissa to the East India Company in August 1765 and the vesting of the responsibility for collection of revenue in the President of Council at Fort William from the year 1766 are well known facts of history. The collection of the revenue was left at first to native agency. But four years later this was supplemented by a staff of European supervisors over whom was placed a Revenue Council at Patna. The system however proved a failure, and in 1772 the supervisors were appointed Collectors under the Board of Revenue at Calcutta. Once more however the previous system was reverted to and again proved a failure. Finally in 1781 Collectors were once more appointed and over them the Presidents of the abolished Councils, who were again subjected to the control of the Committee of Revenue at Calcutta. This system has continued with slight modifications to the present day.

34. From 1765 to 1781 the British system of revenue administration was thus in a nebulous state and this is reflected in the unsatisfactory and irregular state of collections to which we get some clue in the "Sisala" or "Shingrafi" register, which covers a period of 30 years prior to the Decennial Settlement. I find that for the first 10 years of the period the annual collections averaged Rs. 1,00,600; for the next 10 years the average was Rs. 66,700 and for the succeeding 10 years 71,200; the variations from the average are considerable, ranging from 11,700 in 1782 to 170,700 in 1770. Of the revenue demand during this period the only record we have is in the Register of Hoshiyar Jang for the year 1773 which contains figures for all the parganas except Pharkia. The total demand there shown is Rs. 1,25,780, so that even excluding the demand for Pharkia it is obvious that the average collections during the 30 years preceding the Decennial Settlement fell very far short of the demand. And as is well known one of the chief arguments used for justifying the conversion of the Decennial Settlement into a Permanent Settlement, was the idea that one of the reasons for the difficulty in collecting the full demand was the uncertainty that the farmers of the revenue had as to what the assessment would be when the next revision of the revenue demand would be made. For a full account of the investigations that were made or were supposed to be made and on which the Decennial Settlement of 1790 was based, reference may be made to the Muzaffarpur final report for Sirkar Tirhut and Hajipur. For Sirkar Monghyr

Demand in 1773.

I have been unable to trace any account among the papers now preserved at Muzaffarpur and Monghyr.

35. The Decennial Settlement of 1790 was made the basis of the Permanent Settlement of 1793, but in other districts at any rate we know that extensive enquiries were made in this interval by the different Collectors and the assessment fixed in the former year was revised by the inclusion of areas that had previously been overlooked or had escaped assessment for any other reason. Presumably this was the case also in Monghyr, but I have not been able to obtain any information in regard to it. Indeed the first information available of the results of the Permanent Settlement is a register prepared three years later, and even in this the information is given only for six out of the nine parganas. The figures obtained from this register are given in the following table side by side with those for the previous settlements where known :—

Number.	Name of Pargana.	Revenue.			REMARKS.
		1582.	1780.	1795.	
1	Pharkia	75,000	...	46,226	
2	Bhusari ... ..	...	18,235	} 28,504	
3	Masjidpur	31,494	5,094		
4	Akbarpur Rani	4,876	1,678		
5	Malki ... ..	...	37,034	} 66,000	
6	Balin	82,183	25,155		
7	Imadpur	19,897	10,470	14,526	
8	Badi Bhusari	4,389	3,475	...	
9	Naipura	41,599	24,638	...	
	Total	259,438	125,779	155,256	

36. The incompleteness of the figures makes comparison difficult and the fact that Todar Mall's assessment of the three parganas of Sirkar Monghyr was only a paper one adds to this difficulty. All that can safely be inferred from the figures is that in the seventeen years which elapsed between the preparation of Hoshiyar Jang's register in 1773 and the Decennial Settlement, there was a fair increase in the demand from the three parganas Bhusari, Masjidpur, and Akbarpur Rani and a considerable enhancement of the demand from Imadpur.

37. The inequalities of the assessment in Sirkar Tirhut and their immediate results in the shape of sales for arrears of revenue are described at some length in the Muzaffarpur Final Report to which reference may be made for this part of the area. For pargana Pharkia we learn from the correspondence of the early years of the 19th century that one Buniad Singh, the principal zamindar of this pargana, was very soon in arrears. He is said to have had 176 villages covering an area of 74,038 bighas and assessed to a revenue of Rs. 17,432. The whole of this estate was sold up for arrears of revenue on the 27th January, the 30th April, and the 2nd September 1798, and the price obtained did not cover the amount of the arrears. Buniad Singh was accordingly put in jail and, so far as can be ascertained, he remained there for several years. In the meanwhile Bhuttan Singh, who had purchased a portion of the estate assessed at Rs. 12,126, was also sold up in December 1802, and another speculative purchaser took his place. It is unnecessary to trace further the vicissitudes of this estate, but from this single instance it may I think be safely inferred that the assessment of pargana Pharkia was no more satisfactory than was that of other parganas in the district of Tirhut. Whether it was the essential inequity of the assessment or the recusancy of the tenants which was the more to blame for the failure of the zamindars to pay their revenue promptly, is a matter for speculation; but of pargana Pharkia at any rate it may be said that collection of the mufassal demand in such a swampy and

jungly country must have been a difficult task, and the zamindar's position was not improved by the fact that the estate included large areas on which the only rent realisable was a tax on animals that were brought then, as now, to graze in the jungles and grasses.

38. To the "Haftam" and "Pancham" Regulations (VII of 1799 and V of 1812) and that for the reorganisation of the Patwari system (XII of 1817) a passing reference only is necessary; the intentions and the results, good and evil, have been set forth in sufficient detail in previous settlement reports, and I am not aware that the results at any rate have been any different in Monghyr to what they were in Bihar generally.

39. Reference has already been made in a previous paragraph to the distinction between "jagir" and "khalsa" mahals. For the latter the Permanent Settlement fixed the revenue demand in perpetuity but, of the former, many, probably the majority, escaped assessment at that time. In Hoshiyar Jang's register of 1773, no less than 247 villages in the eight parganas transferred from Tirhut are shown as jagir, and the revenue assessable on them is put at Rs. 11,130; the khalsa estates at the same date included 2,212 villages with a demand of Rs. 1,25,780, and from these figures it may safely be inferred that nearly one-tenth of the area of these eight parganas was not assessed to revenue. In Pharkia, though corresponding figures are not available, we know from the subsequent history of this pargana that a very much larger percentage of the area escaped assessment.

40. The importance of resuming and assessing all invalid revenue-free properties was realised very soon after the permanent settlement was concluded, but for various reasons, common to the whole of Bihar, no great progress was made for over 30 years. A full account of the causes that made progress slow are given in the Muzaffarpur final report and it is unnecessary to repeat this here as details for the different parganas are not available and the greater part of the area now under report is included in Sirkars Hajipur and Tirhut in regard to which the Muzaffarpur report gives such information as is available. As a matter of fact though the slow progress made in the province as a whole was in 1833 described as "extremely unsatisfactory" a comparison of the revenue demand of 1795 and that shown in the statement prepared at the time these eight parganas were made over to Monghyr in 1831 shows that the increase during these 36 years was only just under 100 per cent., the demand during that period having risen from Rs. 1,09,030 to Rs. 2,04,784; and the fact that in the succeeding 15 years there was a further increase of barely Rs. 3,500 suggests that so far as these eight parganas are concerned active measures were taken during the earlier part of the century, and that resumption proceedings were to all intents and purposes completed before they were handed over by the Collector of Tirhut to the Deputy Collector of Monghyr.

41. The case of pargana Pharkia which came to this district from Bhagalpur is quite different, and it is true of this area that progress in resuming unassessed lands had been most unsatisfactory during this period; curiously enough, however, this was not so much the fault of the local authorities as of the Board of Revenue at Calcutta, as the following sketch of the history of this pargana and the correspondence which led up to the formal survey in 1835-37, nearly 10 years before the general revenue survey, will show.

42. In a previous paragraph I have described how Buniad Singh, the settlement holder of a very large part of this pargana was sold up for arrears of revenue only five years after the permanent settlement, and how he was thrown into jail a few months later because the sale-proceeds of his estate did not cover the amount of the arrears due therefrom. The letter in which these facts were reported to the Board states that the only property left to Buniad Singh consisted of waste lands not assessed to revenue but included in his settlement; these lands had been put up to sale but no one would bid for them. Shortly after this Pheku Lal, who had bought a portion

of Buniad's property, began to file petitions objecting to the proposed sale of these waste lands, or as they were then called "wyrana" villages, claiming that he had purchased these along with the rest of the estate. In 1803, Mr. Hamilton, Collector of Bhagalpur, reported on one of these petitions that the "wyrana" villages were not included in the list of villages and mehals sold up for arrears of revenue to Pheku Lal, and that the previous purchaser (Pheku was purchaser at a second sale) swore that he was never in possession of any "wyrana" villages, which as a matter of fact continued to be held by Buniad Singh himself until the then Collector attached them with a view to selling them in order to realise what was still due from Buniad. Ultimately Pheku Lal was referred to the Civil Court, and, though it would appear that the case was not finally disposed of till 1815, he was eventually successful inasmuch as the "wyrana" lands included in that portion of Buniad's property which he had purchased were found not to be resumable. This finding was not however accepted by the local authorities as governing the general question of resumption of "wyrana" villages in this pargana, and the correspondence on the subject of resumption was renewed. Incidentally it may be mentioned here that so far back as 1807 the Collector had, with the permission of the Board, bought in 11,000 bighas of Buniad Singh's "wyrana" lands for distribution as grants to invalid and discharged sepoy; presumably this area was outside the portion of the estate purchased by Pheku Lal, and so far as can be ascertained no objection was raised by the auction purchaser of this part of the estate.

43. In 1824 the Commissioner of Bhagalpur addressed a long report to the Board in which he summarised the action already taken, which was practically *nil*, and asked for final orders for commencing resumption proceedings; he pointed out once more that there was ample proof that the "wyrana" villages had not been assessed to revenue at the time of the decennial settlement, that their names were excluded from the "kaifat bandobasti" and were not given in returns that had been filed by the zamindars themselves. He added that the villages were separate and compact blocks and "were not to be confounded with the waste area lying within the ambit of a village, the cultivated portion of which was made the basis of assessment." The Board however were still doubtful; they pointed out that the settlement was made of "tappas" as a whole and that the proprietors "were entitled to the full benefit of all waste lands included within the ascertained boundaries of their respective estates." To this argument the Collector replied that "if either the pattas or kabulyats exchanged did exhibit the names of any of these villages I should certainly coincide in the Board's opinion, but as neither of these papers did specify the wyrana villages or the tappas included in the assessment, and the "daul bandobast" or the average statement which was delivered of the produce of the tappas for five years distinctly shows that they were not calculated in the assets on which the settlement was adjusted, I think it will appear very evident that the settlement made of the tappa did not embrace every village situated within it. I deny that the entire tappa is claimable by the zamindar under his revenue engagements, but only such portion of it as it was thought fit to assess and which is to be found distinctly recorded in the papers which form the basis of the settlement."

44. The Collector's argument used does not appear in itself any stronger than those urged by his predecessors 20 or more years earlier but it was apparently convincing as we find almost directly afterwards that the "wyrana" villages were attached and declared to be resumable under Regulation II of 1819, and on the 30th December 1829 the Collector deputed an establishment to make khas collections. The Board were however still dissatisfied and in May 1830 reminded the Collector that the omission to survey the villages before resuming them rendered his proceedings practically nugatory. They remarked that "investigations of this kind which are confined to the simple question of determining whether a village entered by name in a public record be liable to assessment or not, leaving the main point in doubt untouched, viz., the precise lands to which that name attached, must be obviously altogether inconclusive and useless."

The "wyrana" mehals attached in 1829.

45. A survey having thus been decided upon, further delay was caused by the discussion of the question whether it was to be a professional survey or was to be done by native surveyors with a "rope," and whether it was to include the whole pargana or to be confined to the "wyrana" villages. The arguments used by the Collector against a "rope" survey are somewhat amusing to a modern reader, but any way the Collector carried his point and it was decided that the whole pargana should be professionally surveyed.

Its limitations. Unfortunately it was to be merely a fraverse and boundary survey, though the European surveyor was instructed "to attend to the nature of the cultivated lands and if there was any marked distinction of soil, to enter the proportionate quantity of each in the rough in his statement as a guide to the assessing officer; all the other statistical information required is usually collected by the surveyors who should also cause enquiries to be made into the rates paid for the different kinds of land in the village and the number and average quality of the crops produced."

46. The assessing officer is further informed that "having digested this and the information procurable from the patwaris' papers into the form of a statement and deducting 10 bighas per cent. for the divisions between the fields, pathways, etc., there would be no difficulty in equitably assessing the revenue of the estates and by making allowances as circumstances may appear to require, as correct a record would be formed as was ever produced by a native amin."

The anticipation of the 10 per cent. allowance usually made by modern Settlement Officers when assessing additional rent for excess area is in itself interesting, but my object in quoting this passage *in extenso* was rather to illustrate the ideas then held as to what were the essentials in a record on which a settlement of land revenue was to be based.

47. Captain Tanner, succeeded a little later by Lieutenant Egerton, was deputed early in the cold weather of 1835 to carry out the professional survey, and about the same time Mr. Drummond was placed in special charge of the settlement part of the work. Progress in survey was considerably delayed by the nature of the country, and the work was not completed till the spring of 1838. The value from a professional point of view of this survey will be referred to in a subsequent paragraph dealing with the revenue survey.

48. Settlement or resumption proceedings took a very much longer time, and, though the bulk of the work was apparently got through by 1840, there were still cases pending when the mahalwar register of 1846 was prepared; and from a later note made in this register, it appears that the last "Wyrana" mahal was not settled until so late as 1857. Unfortunately neither the vernacular records of these proceedings nor the returns furnished from time to time showing progress and results are complete; and as the assessment was in most cases a progressive one, which in some instances did not reach its full limit until 1874, it is difficult to calculate the exact effect on the revenue roll. For all practical purposes, however, it may be assumed that the bulk of the difference between the demand of 1795 and that of the present year is due to these proceedings, as it is obvious that between 1795 and 1836 little could have been done in the way of resumption, and since 1875 the revenue has remained practically stationary. The demand in 1795 was Rs. 46,226, and in 1846 it had risen to Rs. 88,039; the present demand is no less than Rs. 1,26,238 and the increase in rather more than a century is not much short of 200 per cent. In an intermediate report submitted in 1836, Mr. Drummond anticipated that about 90,000 bighas of land would be found to be assessable and that the average rate of assessment would be from 1½ annas to a rupee per bigha, adding the rider that the full assessment could not be imposed at once. His estimate was thus not very far out. In the same report he alludes to the great difficulty he had in getting information as to what lands corresponded to the villages which he had to resume and to the fact that everywhere the neighbouring zamindars had encroached on the Government lands.

The extraordinary thing is that he should have been able to recover so much land when all he had to work on was apparently the names of the villages and such information as he could get from informers or other "well disposed" persons as to boundaries. His suggestion that one of the conditions of the new settlement should be that a certain amount of land should be brought under cultivation during the first term of settlement was not apparently given effect to, but as already stated, his most important proposal, namely, that the settlement should be progressive, was accepted, the settlement being in each case made a permanent one as soon as its full limit had been reached.

49. In course of the resumption proceedings in pargana Pharkia another animated discussion arose in connection with what are known as the Bhaishunda Mahals; and as these

Bhaishunda Mahals.

have been a source of constant worry to numerous Collectors down to the present day, a brief account of their nature and origin will not, I think, be out of place. In the Daul Bandobasti papers of the decennial settlement for pargana Pharkia revenue was specially and separately assessed on the assets derivable from grazing fees. In the course of resumption proceedings the question arose whether in resuming the "Wyrana" villages the Bhaishunda of those villages should also be resumed.

Mr. Drummond, the Special Settlement Officer, was very strong in pressing the view that the Bhaishunda rights were not resumable; he pointed out that the main argument used to justify the resumption of waste lands was the fact that in returns furnished by the zamindars they were expressly stated not to have been assessed, while in the same returns it was also equally expressly stated that the Bhaishunda Mahal of the whole tappa was settled. This view, however, was not accepted by the Commissioner, and it was decided to make a separate settlement of the Bhaishunda of five out of the numerous tappas in which the Wyrana villages were found. It was intended in all cases that settlement of the Bhaishunda Mahals should be made with the same person with whom settlement of the land was made, and that both settlements should be merely temporary in the first instance. When, however, the land settlement was made permanent the Bhaishunda settlement still continued to be temporary, and the results of this arrangement and of the numerous changes in ownership through succession, partition, or sale during the period that has since elapsed, in conjunction with the enormous increase in the cultivated area and the corresponding decrease in the area suitable for grazing has resulted in recent years in constant defaults of the settlement holders of the Bhaishunda Mahals who are in most cases not the proprietors of the villages in which those mahals lie. At different times this difficulty was anticipated and attempts were made on one occasion to settle the Bhaishunda Mahals in lots corresponding to the different land estates with proprietors of those estates. In more recent years it has been difficult even to get any one to take up their settlement, and obviously the only practical solution of the difficulty is to strike them off from the revenue roll as the current terms of settlement expire.

50. As we have just seen the regular revenue survey was anticipated in the case of pargana Pharkia, where resumption operations on a large scale made a professional survey essential. The rest of the district was

The fifth period, professional survey, 1846-1847.

surveyed in the years 1845 to 1847 by Captain Sherwill and, except for an elaborate recalculation of its area, pargana Pharkia was left severely alone, Lieutenant Egerton's survey of 1836-1837 being formally given the dignity and weight of a revenue survey. Some light is thrown on the professional

Opinions as to the value of the Pharkia survey.

opinion as to its value by a letter from the Deputy Surveyor-General to the Collector of Mouhyr, dated the 21st of January 1859, in reply to a reference about the boundaries of certain villages which were in dispute. He says: "This pargana did not come under the regular operation at the time the district was surveyed by Captain W. S. Sherwill, Revenue Surveyor, in 1845 to 1871, which has always been much to be regretted, but the orders were imperative on this head so far as I recollect, and the only alternative left was to survey the surrounding parganas and to leave this large division intact. I am not at all surprised to hear that this pargana, which has been a thorn in my side for years, should be now giving you trouble." "From a searching investigation into the village plans and registers of Lieutenant Egerton's survey some time ago, it was discovered that the mauzawar areas did not comprise the

whole of the lands of the pargana, many intervening wheels and rivers not having been taken into account and recorded in the village registers. The external boundary of the pargana, moreover, had also been greatly altered all round, but more especially on the Ganges river side. It is therefore indispensablely necessary in my opinion that as soon as the remaining districts in Bengal are finished, an entirely new survey should be made of this pargana."

It is unfortunate that this new and complete survey has not yet been made, for even in the present operations the work was done piecemeal, 125 villages covering an area of 143 square miles being excluded as having been

This pargana never surveyed as a whole.

dealt with in the settlement operations of the Srinagar-Banaili estates in 1887-1894. In a later chapter I shall describe some of the special difficulties which resulted from the fact that there had been no regular and complete revenue survey and the additional fact that we had to piece our work on to that done nearly ten years before in an area which is just as liable now to change as it was during the period of the revenue survey.

51. The limitations of that survey and the confusion that resulted from the vague ideas held by the revenue surveyor as to the distinction between a village and an estate

The "village" unit.

are described at length in previous reports and need not be repeated here; it may, however, be mentioned that in pargana Pharkia we had to deal with an extraordinary large number of villages consisting of several small detached portions, and that an additional complication resulted from the fact that in many cases the Srinagar-Banaili survey had dealt with portions only of villages.

52. In the annexed statement the area of the different parganas as ascer-

Comparison of areas and revenue demand as in 1847 and in 1904.

tained at the time of the revenue survey and during the present operations is compared and also the revenue demand of 1847 and of 1904.

Serial No.	Name of pargana.	Area in square miles.		Revenue.		Remarks.
		1846.	1904	1846.	1904.	
				Rs.	Rs.	
1	Balia ...	281	299	72,190	96,611	
2	Naipur ...	85	81	25,300	27,972	
3	Akbarpur ...	7	9	3,392	3,315	
4	Imadpur ...	54	43	19,741	19,769	
5	Bhusari ...	119	109	42,773	44,455	
6	Badi Bhusari ...	20	32	9,700	8,478	
7	Masjidpur ...	48	31	20,696	41,171	
8	Malki ...	189	146	43,182	86,549	
■	Pharkia ...	738	796	88,039	1,26,238	
		1,541	1,546	3,25,013	4,54,553	

The difference in the total area is inconsiderable and the large difference in the case of particular parganas is due almost entirely to the fact that the boundary of so many of them is riparian and subject to constant change. As regards the revenue demand the only parganas which show any great change are Pharkia, Masjidpur, Malki and Balia. In Pharkia, as already explained, the full effect of the progressive revenue fixed during the resumption proceedings was not reached till 1875; in Masjidpur the 1846 figures do not include the demand from the "Jalkar" mahals, while in the other two parganas the

old register shows that an area of 16,273 acres in Balia and of 20,428 in Malki which had actually been assessed had not up till then been brought on to the tauzi. In Masjidpur also there was an area of 8,131 acres which had not been brought to account for similar reasons.

53. Of the diara survey of 1865-1866 I have been unable to obtain any records showing any features peculiar to this district though it is sufficiently obvious that an area like this, with a long length of riparian boundary, should have had a special interest in the survey of the diara lands. From the histories of the Government and temporarily-settled estates it does not appear that any of them had their origin in this survey, and it may be argued from this that the fact that for a greater part of its course along this district the bed of the Ganges is actually within the district boundary resulted in a more complete assessment of the diara lands in the years which preceded the diara survey than was the case in other districts further west.

54. To the survey which preceded settlement operations in the Srinagar-Banaili estate reference has already been made, and it remains only to add that 47 square miles in thanas Teghra and Beguserai were surveyed in 1895-1896 in connection with the settlement of the Narhan estate.

55. The modern period is chiefly remarkable for the legislation intended to regulate the relation between landlord and tenant beginning with Act X of 1859, and culminating in the Bengal Tenancy Act (VIII of 1885), the logical outcome of which was the present survey and settlement operations. Other enactments of this period that have a special bearing on revenue history are the Partition Acts of 1876 and 1897 and the Land Registration Act of the former year.

56. In the statement given below the results of the revenue sales held during the last 20 years are tabulated: the figures given are for the whole district:—

Quinquennial periods.	Average number of estates sold per annum.	Average annual demand of the estates in rupees.	Average price at which they were sold in rupees.	Proportion of price to demand.
1884-85 to 1888-89 ...	44	6,904	57,456	8
1889-90 to 1893-94 ...	71	7,211	55,242	7
1894-95 to 1898-99 ...	72	2,908	44,940	15
1899-1900 to 1903-04 ...	79	6,233	75,264	12
Average per year ...	67	5,859	58,677	10

Less than nine estates in every 1,000 borne on the revenue roll have to be sold, and the demand from them represents less than 1 per cent. of the total demand of the district. The price paid is higher than the average obtained in other districts of Bihar, for which a reason may perhaps be found in the comparatively low incidence of the revenue demand. The majority of the estates, however, which come to sale are either temporarily or permanently-settled estates in the diaras, and in the former at any rate the revenue demand is considerable. As elsewhere the majority of the purchasers at revenue sales are mere speculators, and, in cases where the demand is petty, bid without any accurate knowledge of the value of the estate.

57. The extent of the Land Registration work of the district is shown by the following figures:—

Year.					Number of cases.
1889-90 to 1893-94 ...	...	...	...	...	366
1894-95 to 1898-99 ...	...	...	...	...	5,832
1899-1900 to 1903-04 ...	...	...	...	...	11,897
Total					18,095

For the ten years 1877 to 1887 the number of cases was 36,627. These figures are somewhat extraordinary; we are told that registration was so carelessly done in the first period that the shares in most estates totalled up to more than 16 annas; and in the succeeding period no special activity was displayed by either landlords or Collector, while the large number of cases in the last five years was due to the special steps taken to correct the mistakes previously made and bring the registers up to date. In spite of this, however, the comparison of Register D with the settlement khewats, which for various reasons was delayed till after settlement operations were completed, shows that the register is still far from correct, and a special staff has been employed to make the comparison and deal with the mutations arising out of it.

58. Since 1884 no less than 670 cases under the Partition Act have been disposed of; the figures for four quinquennial periods are given below:—

Partitions.					Number of cases.	
Year.						
1884-85 to 1888-89	275
1888-89 to 1893-94	139
1894-95 to 1898-99	145
1899-1900 to 1903-04	111
Total					...	670

Of this number, though separate figures have not been compiled, it can safely be said that the bulk of the cases related to the Beguserai subdivision, where conditions approximate to those prevailing in the adjoining district of Darbhanga.

59. In 1854 according to a letter of the Collector's there were 3,423 estates borne on the revenue roll of the district; by 1879 this number had gone up to 5,356, and by 1904 to 8,037. The increase in 50 years amounts therefore to no less than 135 per cent. and during the last 25 years to 50 per cent.

Of these 8,037 estates 65 are settled temporarily with a revenue demand of Rs. 50,915 and 46 are held direct by Government, the rent and revenue roll being Rs. 76,651. For North Monghyr the figures are—

			Number of estates.	Revenue demand.
Permanently-settled estates	...	...	4,325	374,060
Temporarily-settled estates and Government estates	...	...	42	80,493
Total			...	454,553

The large proportion which the demand from the latter class of estates bears to the whole as compared with the other Bihar districts is noticeable, and will be referred to in more detail in a subsequent chapter.

60. In concluding this sketch of the Revenue administration I invite reference to the figures given in the statement below, in which the area, revenue and incidence thereof of the four North Bihar districts and in South and North Monghyr are compared:—

District.			Area.	Revenue.	Incidence.
				Ra.	A. P.
Darbhangha	...	...	3,348	7,88,301	5 10 per acre.
Muzaffarpur	...	...	3,033	9,65,128	7 11 "
Saran	...	...	2,674	12,63,924	11 9 "
Champaran	...	...	3,531	5,15,553	3 7 "
North Monghyr	...	...	1,451	3,74,060	6 5 "
South Monghyr	...	...	2,318	4,02,716	4 4 "
Monghyr	...	...	3,769	7,76,776	5 1 "

No allowance has been made in the case of the first four districts for the temporarily-settled and Government estates, the area of and revenue deriveable from which is inconsiderable; in the case of Monghyr the figures are for the permanently-settled area only.

61. Leaving out of account South Monghyr, where as is well known there are large areas of hill country and the area not brought under cultivation is considerable, and Cham-

Reasons for differences. paran, where for various reasons set forth in Mr. Kerr's report on settlement operations in that district the assessment is exceptionally light, it is somewhat extraordinary that the incidence of revenue in North Monghyr should be so little more than in Darbhanga and so much less than in Muzaffarpur, with both of which districts both in the nature of the country and in the character of the inhabitants it has so many points in common.

A perusal of the preceding sections of this chapter will, however, throw some light on this point; we have seen that only a small portion of the area was even assessable so late as 1750 at a time when the whole of the present district of Muzaffarpur was assessed, and that though a very large increase in the revenue roll was obtained by the assessment of resumed lands in pargana Pharkia at a comparatively recent date, that assessment was necessarily low, as even then a large percentage of the area resumed was not under cultivation. In Darbhanga there was a special reason for low assessment in the fact that so large a proportion of the whole area of the district was settled with one zamindar Raja Madho Singh, who was practically able to dictate his own terms or at any rate to get a considerable reduction in those on which settlement was in the first instance offered to him.

PART II.

THE PRESENT OPERATIONS.

CHAPTER I.

PROCEDURE AND PROGRESS.

62. Work commenced in the north of this district on 25th October 1899 and continued until October 1904. Mr. J. H. Kerr,

Their inception. I.C.S., was in charge as Settlement Officer of North Bihar from the commencement of the work until April 1903. I was then placed in charge, the appointments of Settlement Officer, North and South Bihar, being amalgamated. Mr. E. Lister, I.C.S., was in subordinate charge from October 1900 until the end of February 1902, when on his transfer to Ranchi as Settlement Officer he was relieved by Mr. G. J. Monahan, who had been learning the work under Mr. Lister for four months previously. Mr. Monahan remained in subordinate charge until the close of the operations except for a period of six months from May to November 1902 when he was on sick leave and his place was taken by Mr. W. Gourlay, I.C.S.

The head-quarters of the operations were at Beguserai until October 1901, when they were transferred to Monghyr. Pundit Rama Bullabh Misra, who had been employed in the district from October 1901, was in charge of the head-quarters office from April 1902 to the close of the operations.

63. A long list of notifications under which the work was done will be found in the statements given in Appendix C. The original

Notifications. notifications were necessarily somewhat complicated owing to the decision arrived at before operations began that the areas already dealt with in the course of the Narhan and Srinagar-Banaili operations were to be excluded. Later for various reasons portions of the area so excluded had to be taken up, and besides the amending notifications a series of special notifications were required in order to bring under the operations of section 104, Bengal Tenancy Act, the various Government and temporarily-settled estates in North and South Monghyr.

64. On a few of the numerous notifications included in the list, special

Portions of excluded area subsequently included. comments are perhaps necessary.

No. 2233 L.R., dated the 8th April 1902, under the Survey Act, and No. 2234 L.R., dated the 8th April 1902, under the Tenancy Act included within the present operations certain areas which though they had been included in Narhan estate at the time of Narhan survey and settlement were now found (chiefly in the course of boundary disputes) to belong to other villages. These notifications were considered necessary in order to legalise our operations with respect to these areas inasmuch as the former notifications for the survey and preparation of a record of rights of thanas Teghra and Beguserai excluded the area covered by the Narhan operations.

Similar notifications in respect of Srinagar-Banaili villages were No. 1118, dated the 27th February 1903, under the Survey Act, and No. 1117 L.R. of the same date under Bengal Tenancy Act.

In the case of the Narhan villages the area covered by these notifications was trifling, being only 27 acres, but the area of Srinagar-Banaili villages was 1,272 acres comprised in no less than 60 villages, and the validity of the notifications and our right to interfere at all with boundaries as laid down in the 1887-88 survey was contested on behalf of the joint proprietors who submitted a lengthy memorial on the subject to the Local Government. The matter is one that will be specially dealt with in a later section dealing with boundary disputes, and at this point I would only note that our action was upheld by the Local Government.

65. The notifications under section 101 (2) (c) and (d) were necessary for the villages, both in North and South Monghyr, containing Government estates, in which rents were about to be settled under section 104, Bengal Tenancy Act, with a view to a settlement of revenue.

No distinction was made between estates in the south to which the general operations did not extend and those in the three northern thanas where the survey and preparation of a record-of-rights of Government and temporarily-settled estates was covered, except as to the matter of settlement of rents under section 104, by the general notifications under section 101 (1).

66. A distinction was however drawn between estates the property of Government or of private individuals under "khas" management and similar estates leased out temporarily, of which the settlement was about to expire. The original intention was to notify the latter only under section 101 (2) (d) and such of the former as were diaras under section 101 (2) (c), non-diaras estates of this class to be notified under both sub-sections. The idea underlying this was that notifications under section 101 (2) (d) involves a settlement of all rents under section 104, and this was not desirable in the case of diaras. The proposal however was subsequently dropped, and all Government estates were finally notified under sub-section (d) and such of them as were under khas management, under sub-section (c) also.

67. The notifications under section 3, Act IX, 1847, were issued at the request of the Collector for all lands between the southern boundaries of thanas Teghra, Beguserai and Gogri and the opposite, i.e., southern high bank of the Ganges, in order to enable him, where necessary, to assess newly-formed diara lands to revenue. It does not however appear that any such lands were discovered, except such as were accretions to existing Government estates.

68. The progress made in traverse survey is shown in the annexed statement:—

Number of Villages and Area traversed, in square miles.

Thana.	1899-1900.		1900-01.		1901-02.		Total.	
	Villages.	Area.	Villages.	Area.	Villages.	Area.	Villages.	Area.
Teghra ...	493	153.91	198	246	...	..	691	399.91
Beguserai ...	566	387.64	...	...	...	...	566	387.64
Gogri ...	...	...	255	501	148	1.96	403	697.
South Monghyr ..	...	...	...	...	26	11.13	26	11.13
	1,059	541.45	453	747	174	207.13	1,686	1,495.58

69. The first year's work was confined to the uplands of Teghra and Beguserai, and presented no special features. In the second season the major portion of Gogri Thana and the remainder of the other two thanas, including the diara area, was done, the work extending as far south as the southern high bank of the Ganges where the traverse stations could be permanently marked. Bad demarcation in thana Gogri was the chief feature of the year's work, the reason for it being the apathy displayed by the tenants and by the subordinate staff of the proprietors of the Srinagar-Banaili estate, who, knowing that their villages were not to be dealt with, took little interest in the work. A further difficulty was experienced in connecting the work with the traverse stations of the Srinagar-Banaili survey, as many of the old marks had been moved or had disappeared. In the third season similar difficulties were experienced. In the remaining portion of Gogri Thana, which included the Gangetic diara area, and in South Monghyr, the identification of 26 Government estates for which a survey was considered necessary, was attended with some difficulty. For ten other estates traverse survey was dispensed with as their area was very small, being in all cases under 50 acres.

70. The progress made year by year in cadastral survey and preliminary record-writing is shown in the annexed statement :—

Statement of Cadastral Survey and Preliminary Record writing.

SEASON.	Cadastral survey.		Preliminary record-writing.		Thanas.
	Villages.	Square miles.	Villages.	Square miles.	
1900-1901 ...	517	209.40	517	209.40	Teghra. Beguserai. Monghyr. Surajgarha. Gogri.
	655	480.30	655	480.30	
	5	31.04	5	31.04	
	3	12.59	3	12.59	
	4	12.00	...	...
Total ...	1,184	745.33	1,180	733.33	
1901-1902 ...	310	614.52	315	626.52	Gogri. Monghyr diara. Surajgarha. Monghyr upland. Sheikhpura.
	22	24.90	21	24.90	
	28	3.80	28	3.80	
	7	7.00	7	7.00	
	2	0.70	2	0.70	
Total ..	369	650.92	373	662.92	
GRAND TOTAL ...	1,553	1,396.25	1,553	1,396.25	

The whole of this area was surveyed on the scale of 16 inches to the mile, except the village sites in Thanas Teghra and Beguserai, which, in accordance with the North Bihar practice, were surveyed on the scale of 64 inches to the mile. In Thana Gogri the new rule was applied, and the larger scale was only used where it was impossible to show the detail of plots with sufficient clearness for practical purposes on the ordinary scale. The result of this change in procedure was, it may be noted, a considerable saving in cost. Besides the area cadastrally surveyed, topographical maps on the scale of 4 inches to the mile were prepared for diara villages covering an area of nine square miles. The difference of nearly 100 square miles between the traverse and cadastral areas is explained mainly by the fact already referred to, namely, that the traverse lines on the south bank of the river had to be taken sufficiently far inland to enable the stations to be fixed and marked where the marks would have some chance of being permanent. The difference between the cadastrally-surveyed area (1,396 square miles) and that for which records were finally framed (1,371 square miles) is considerable, and is due mainly to draft records having been

prepared for a number of private estates, on the assumption that they were Government estates, or that they were within the jurisdiction of thanas to which the operations had been extended. In the case of a small area in Thana Gogri the excess was due to overlap surveys of Srinagar-Banaili villages, the overlap consisting of jagir lands for which the records of that survey contained no details, and for which it was proposed to prepare a fresh record.

71. The cadastral survey was carried through by a section of No. 4

Testing of field-work survey.

Party of the Survey of India working under the supervision of Mr. A. W. Smart. The professional work was adequately tested, the number of lineal miles of test survey averaging over $5\frac{1}{2}$ per square mile of detailed survey which was considerably in excess of the required standard, and, as elsewhere in North Bihar, the bulk of the work was of excellent quality.

72. The preliminary record-writing was done by the survey amins

Khanapuri.

under the joint supervision of the survey and settlement staff, the procedure followed being identical with that adopted in Darbhanga and other North Bihar districts. Plot-testing was done by the officers of both the survey and settlement staffs, and out of 1,257,731 plots in the three northern thanas, 172,776 were checked by the settlement staff and 366,070 by the survey staff. Of the plots tested by Survey Department, 18,126 were inspected by officers of superior rank and the remainder by Inspectors: 2,063 visits were paid by the officers of the Settlement Department to 1,532 villages included in the programme while records were actually being prepared. In the 36 Government estates the work was adequately inspected, as many as 28 per cent. of the plots being tested. At the beginning of the first season's work there was one Assistant Settlement Officer in each of the two thanas; in the middle of January an additional officer was deputed to Thana Beguserai: five kanungos were employed throughout the season, and a sixth from January. In Thana Teghra the unfortunate illness of four successive Assistant Settlement Officers and the death of one kanungo interfered considerably with the progress of the work. The second season's area was divided up between three Assistant Settlement Officers and five kanungos, and Mr. Monahan was also specially employed on supervision of Khanapuri for two months before he relieved Mr. Lister as Assistant Settlement Officer in charge.

73. The bulk of the first year's work lay, as already stated, in Thanas

Features of the work.

Minute subdivision of proprietary interests.

Teghra and Beguserai; conditions here resembled very closely those obtaining in the neighbouring thana of Dalsingserai, and the chief difficulties of the work lay in the extent to which proprietary interests were subdivided, and the fact that a large proportion of both landlords and tenants belonged to the notoriously litigious Babhan caste. A square mile in thana Teghra contained on the average 1,361 plots and 400 holdings, and in thana Beguserai, 1,066 plots and 91 holdings; in the whole area *khewats*, or records of proprietary interest, had to be prepared for no less than 26,011 estates, 9,831 *pattis* and 68,237 landlords, the smallest recorded subdivision of proprietary rights being $\frac{1}{2,400,000}$ of an anna. In a single plot of land, the area of which was just over half an acre, there were 1,582 co-sharers, each of whose shares thus represented only 00036 of an acre, or $7\frac{1}{4}$ square feet. In such an area, as might be expected, the number of internal disputes was large, as will be evident from the figures given in a succeeding paragraph.

74. Apart from the difficulties arising from the excessive subdivision

Suppression of raiyats.

of proprietary interests and the heavy file of internal disputes, the chief obstacle to progress was the attempt made by many of the petty landlords to get lands which were actually held by raiyats recorded as in their own cultivating possession. This "suppression of raiyats" had first been tried on a large scale in the Padri pargana of Darbhanga district, and was not commonly resorted to elsewhere in North Bihar; since then, however, it has become the commonest and most troublesome source of delay, both at the Khanapuri and at the attestation stage. As in Darbhanga the procedure followed was to treat as doubtful or *mustabha* any large area claimed as in the direct cultivation of the landlord, until careful enquiry had been made by one of the Khanapuri officers to ascertain whether any part or the whole of it was actually held by

raiyats. The liberty necessarily given to the amin to "doubt" the accuracy of the landlord's statement that a particular field is in his possession is one which is likely to be abused, but in the case of North Monghyr, it was not, I think, abused to any great extent, and the possibility that a few landlords were unnecessarily worried by the amins in this matter is a lesser evil than that a large number of petty (generally low caste) tenants should have been deprived of their rights. In this season's area enquiries were made during the khanapuri stage in respect of 20,746 *mustabha* plots, and there was still a balance of 3,805 left for the attestation officers to enquire into. It is unfortunate that no record was kept of the number of these which were found to be actually landlords' *bakusht* lands, but a perusal of the khanapuri officers' diaries shows that for a very large percentage of the plots the names of cultivating tenants were ascertained and recorded.

75. Another difficult feature of the work in this area was the number of instances discovered in which the lands of two or more estates were indistinguishable on the ground. In such cases one joint record had to be prepared for both estates. But this was not done without full inquiry as to whether the lands were indistinguishable, and, wherever possible, demarcation of the different estates was done from the old butwara or thakbast maps.

76. It is a matter for regret that no special action was taken to induce the proprietors of such estates to apply to the Collector for amalgamation of the revenue demand under section 100 of the Land Registration Act. I would venture to suggest that the Act should provide for the Collector taking the initiative in a matter like this, where the landlords fail to do so; the constant opening of separate accounts and the formation of new estates by partitions add to the recurring work of a Collector's office, and anything that would reduce the number of units of account would be welcome.

77. The second season's work comprised Gogri thana in North Monghyr and the Government estates in South Monghyr. As already explained, the physical features of thana Gogri are very different from those of Beguserai and Teghra; it includes vast uncultivated tracts of pasture land and of jhil and jungle, and, except in a small area to the north, minute subdivision of proprietary rights is the exception.

The work in consequence was comparatively simple; the number of plots was only 752 to the square mile, and each square mile represented on the average only 140 holdings; of the plots, 1 in 34 was the subject of dispute, and the number of disputes per square mile was only 22 as against 48 in the previous season's area. The chief obstacle to progress was, as in the previous year, the wholesale suppression of raiyats, more especially in the large area owned by Ram Bahadur Singh and his uncle, Udit Narain Singh. In several cases the suppression took the form of actual dispossession a year or two prior to khanapuri, and in one conspicuous instance this particular landlord was found to have dispossessed a large number of tenants in order to provide himself with suitable land for growing sugarcane on a large scale under promise of giving them other land in exchange—a promise that had not been fulfilled. In yet another case a whole village (Sardiha) was claimed as *bakusht* by its Rajput landlords, and it was with difficulty that the khanapuri officer, M. Ashfaq Hossain, succeeded in discovering that a very large part really belonged to the holdings of a number of low-caste resident tenants who had not at first the courage to claim even the small patches of cultivation adjoining their own houses.

78. Both in this and in the previous season the decision of claims to hold lands revenue-free was a matter of considerable difficulty. The Collector's registers (B and old Register C) of revenue-free properties were admittedly incomplete, and the subject was complicated by the fact that in resuming the old "invalid jagirs" on the death of the original grantee, portions of the grants were not infrequently not resumed with the rest. All claims not supported by entries in Register B were referred to the Collector, and no property was recorded as revenue-free until the claim was admitted by him; these references and the

enquiries necessary before many of the claims could be decided took up a good deal of time, and delayed the progress of work in the field.

79. Reference has already been made to internal disputes as an obstacle to progress in preliminary record-writing.

The number filed and decided during the khanapuri stage is shown in the following table :—

Season.		Filed.	Decided.	Area in square miles.	No. of disputes per square mile.
1900-01	...	34,748	32,100	733	47
1901-02	...	14,363	13,767	633	22
Total	...	49,111	45,867	1,396	35

These figures illustrate what has just been said as to the difference between the two seasons' work ; they also show the amount of work got through by the staff of Assistant Settlement Officers and kanungos who were employed in supervising preliminary record-writing ; the quality of the work was tested during the attestation stage when no less than 10,021 of the disputes decided by the kanungos were re-opened and their decisions scrutinized by the attestation officers. In 3,810 cases the orders passed were revised as wrong, and in another 1,568 cases on the technical grounds. Put in other words, 93 out of every 100 disputes raised during khanapuri stage were decided by the staff then employed, leaving 7 only for the attestation officers to dispose of. Besides these, however, the latter scrutinized the decisions and re-enquired into another 20 cases, and in 11 out of those revised the orders originally passed.

80. These results show that on the whole the work of the kanungos was good, and, considering that a very large proportion of the disputes filed at the earlier stages are petty disputes about the possession of particular plots, and many of them frivolous, it is doubtful whether it would be justifiable to employ a more expensive agency to do this work. I am, however, inclined to agree with Mr. Monahan, who writes somewhat strongly on this point, that the employment of a cheap and possibly corrupt agency is a somewhat shortsighted policy. There is at any rate no doubt that the introduction of the ministerial or quasi-ministerial officer into the superior staff of the Settlement Department has considerably lowered the reputation of the Department as a whole in the eyes of the people among whom they have to work—a result in itself deplorable.

81. Some indication of the nature of the disputes filed and decided during the khanapuri stage has already been given, and as the more important disputes came up again during attestation, and will have to be referred to in connection with that branch of the work, further reference is unnecessary at this point. General disputes as to rights in trees and claims to hold land rent-free did not assume, in North Monghyr, the importance they had borne in Darbhanga, the explanation being that the number of big landlords was few, and that, except in the matter of setting up claims to the lands of their tenants, there was practically no combination or common action on the part of the petty proprietors.

The vast majority of the disputes dealt with during the khanapuri stage were thus the ordinary disputes as to possession of "pattis" among the landlords, and as to possession of fields between the tenants ; innumerable false claims were set up, and, as is usual, were met by counterclaims ; in many cases the only motive on the part of the original disputant was that of annoying his neighbour, but the general idea that the present was the last opportunity they would have of grabbing their neighbour's lands was no doubt responsible for the institution of a vast majority of the disputes in each thana.

82. The following table gives particulars regarding the number of boundary disputes. boundary disputes filed in each thana:—

Name of thana.	Total number of villages surveyed.	Number of boundary disputes filed.	Number of appeals instituted.	Number of cases in which the original decision was			Percentage of boundary disputes to total number of villages.
				Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	
1. Teghra	517	137	28	26	1	1	27
2. Beguserai	601	279	85	47	5	3	44
3. Gogri	315	335	73	51	11	6	103
4. Monghyr	89	49	6	6	.....	.....	55
5. Surnagarha	35	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	11
6. Shaikpura	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total	1,619	794	161	134	19	9	48

As these figures show, the work under this head was particularly heavy in thanas Gogri, Monghyr and Beguserai, for which the long line of riparian boundary on the south was mainly responsible. In Monghyr, moreover, the villages dealt with were scattered, and, being the property of Government, careful comparison with the previous settlement maps and the survey maps of 1846 and 1865 was made by the khas-mahal staff, and disputes were filed wherever land, apparently the property of Government, had been lost.

83. In thana Gogri a very large percentage (115 out of 92) related to boundaries of villages belonging to the Srinagar-Banaili estate surveyed in 1887-88. Besides those actually instituted by the parties, a good many of these arose from the fact that comparison of the old and new boundaries in the Survey Office showed either an overlap or a *hiatus*. When the latter was discovered, both villages of course claimed the intervening land, though no such claim had been put in during the demarcation stage; similarly in the case of an overlap, the Srinagar-Banaili proprietor disclaimed our right to take away any portion of their village as surveyed in 1887-88, even where the fact that they had accepted the demarcation showed that they were out of possession. In all these cases the Srinagar-Banaili boundary was maintained wherever possible, that is to say, wherever there was not exact and positive evidence that the proprietors of that estate had lost possession of the overlap area or gained possession of the *hiatus* area since the survey and settlement operations of 1887—1894.

84. As already noticed, our action in this matter was made the subject of a memorial to Government in which it was argued that the proceedings in 1887—1894 were final, and the boundaries then laid down could not be revised to the detriment of the proprietors of the estate, though it was not suggested that they were not themselves to get the benefit of the additions which they had since then succeeded in making to some of their villages by encroachment on their neighbours's property. My reply to this was that in dealing with the survey of village A, adjoining village B, the latter being the property of the Srinagar-Banaili proprietors and having been surveyed in 1887-88, we have, under section 15 of the Survey Act, to lay down the boundary of A according to present possession, irrespective of whether A has encroached on B or not; B's title may be good, but title is not a matter with which an officer deciding a case under the Survey Act is primarily concerned. Similarly in preparing a draft record-of-rights under the Tenancy Act, the Revenue Officer has to base his record, in the first instance, on possession, and he cannot record that C's holding or field is a portion of village B, when he finds that C is regularly cultivating it, and paying rent for it, as a tenant of village A. Granting that the adverse possession is not of such a nature as to establish a good title, the fact remains that possession is adverse, and that the question of title is not one which can properly be taken up or decided until after final publication of the record. All that the Srinagar-Banaili proprietors could rightly claim was that the maps and records of 1887-1894 should be considered conclusive evidence as to possession at the time they were prepared, and presumptive evidence as to title. This view of the case was supported by the Law officers of Government to whom the memorial was referred, and the action already taken in regard to the "overlap" areas was upheld.

85. In the disputes between villages neither of which belonged to the Srinagar-Banaili estate considerable difficulty was often found owing to the fact that pargana Pharkia (which coincides with thana Gogri) had not been surveyed since 1836-1837. The reasons for the omission of this area from the general Revenue Survey of 1817-1849 have been given in some detail in the chapter on Revenue History, and the Deputy Surveyor-General's opinion as to the quality and accuracy of the 1836-1837 survey has been quoted. There was at first some doubt as to whether it was a Revenue Survey at all. However, the Board to whom the matter was referred decided that it was, but this did not get over the practical difficulty, amounting in most cases to impossibility, of relaying, even approximately, the 1836-1837 boundaries, and the result was that the large class of cases the determination of which in an ordinary area is rendered comparatively simple by the existence of an accurate and reliable map from which the old boundaries can be ascertained with a sufficient degree of accuracy for all ordinary purposes, was rendered particularly difficult.

86. The large number of disputes in this area was also due in part to the fact that the village boundaries either pass now, or till recently passed, through jungle or swamp, or had originally followed the line of a river the course of which has since changed; in such cases the adjoining landlords each demarcated a boundary according to their particular ideas as to where it should be, and as possession was difficult to prove, and the old maps, as already noticed, unreliable, decision of such disputes was difficult.

87. Two special instances of disputes of complicated nature and covering a wide area deserve passing mention. Sihawa, a Government estate in thana Monghyr had seven big disputes with its neighbours, who, as a matter of fact, were only trying to recover what the 1865 survey, backed by a High Court ruling, had really robbed them of. The greater portion of Sihawa, as demarcated in 1865, was really a reformation *in situ* of portions of no less than 20 different estates, all of which formed separate villages at the time of the revenue survey, and for all of which Government revenue has been regularly paid down to the present day. The opportunity was taken on the part of the proprietors of several of these estates to re-establish their rights, but as they were out of possession and the High Court had already decided against them on the question of title, nothing could be done to re-establish them in what ought in strict justice to be still their property.

88. The Arnawa-Sahuria dispute in Gogri, covering an area of nearly a square mile, was one that perplexed three different Assistant Settlement Officers besides two Assistant Settlement Officers in charge for the best part of two years, and even then the finding arrived at had to be modified by me on appeal, and again by the Commissioner on review. Mr. Monahan has supplied the following sketch of the history and difficulties of arriving at a decision of this dispute.

The dispute dates as far back as 1814, when Shaikh Farzand Ali, grandfather of the present malik of Arnawa, claimed, as part of his village, a tract of land (the same as that now in dispute) which was being included in Sahuria in the course of batwara proceedings; his claim was disallowed, and the whole block included in Sahuria, and divided up among various estates. Shaikh Farzand Ali at the time held a lease of the whole of Sahuria besides being proprietor of Arnawa, and so long as he did so, was in no way affected by this decision. When the lease expired, he naturally refused to give up possession of the land of which he considered he had been unjustly robbed, and the result was a series of civil suits, which in respect of most of the Sahuria estates concerned went against him, the general basis of decision being the boundary of the villages as laid down in the Revenue Survey, according to which the disputed land fell within Sahuria. The struggle with the proprietors of one estate (Tauzi No. 5082) was more complicated and the result less decisive. The area claimed by this estate was 203 bighas, and after some fighting a compromise was arranged by which Sahuria was to get 132 bighas and Arnawa the balance. Unfortunately it subsequently appeared that there were several proprietors of Tauzi No. 5082 in Sahuria and

not all of these had joined in the compromise. Further litigation ensued, the compromise was set aside, and Sahuria was given the whole area in dispute. An appeal followed, and the compromise was restored subject to a decree in favour of one Sham Lal, a non-participating proprietor, for half an anna share in the whole 203 acres. Later, another proprietor appealed, and established his right to a $2\frac{1}{2}$ anna share in the same area. The result of all this litigation, at least on paper, was that out of 203 bighas disputed various proprietors of Sahuria were entitled to 16 anna rights in 132 bighas, and the Arnawa proprietor to an undivided share of 13 annas, and two Sahuria proprietors to undivided shares of $2\frac{1}{2}$ annas and $\frac{1}{2}$ anna respectively in the remaining 71 bighas. To give practical effect to such a complicated decision, and to lay down a definite boundary between the two villages in accordance with it would even at the time have been a difficult task. But as a matter of fact, only one of the decrees (that obtained by the $2\frac{1}{2}$ anna malik) was ever executed, and as most of the land covered by the dispute consisted of uncultivated jungle, things actually remained pretty much as they were before.

In 1900 the various shares in estate No. 5082 came into the market and were purchased by a wealthy banker of Monghyr, but even he does not seem to have been able to get effective possession of the disputed area, most of which had been brought under cultivation by tenants of village Arnawa.

Disputes were filed at Khanapuri in respect of the whole length of the boundary between the two villages, the proprietor of Arnawa being opposed to the proprietors of six different estates in Sahuria. In regard to five of these the difficulty was mainly a mechanical one, the area in dispute being uncultivated and the decision in consequence based on title as disclosed by the Revenue Survey maps and the old civil court decrees. Unfortunately old maps could be with difficulty compared with those of the present survey, being the somewhat unreliable maps of Lieutenant Tanner, and common fixed points difficult to ascertain, and the original decisions of the Assistant Settlement Officers who took up the case were vitiated by the fact that the old boundary line was shown inaccurately on the trace of the disputed areas.

The same cause helped to make the dispute in regard to the 203 bighas claimed by Tauzi No. 5082 of Sahuria, rather more difficult than it might otherwise have been, but here there were further difficulties arising from the civil court decisions already referred to, and disputed facts of present possession.

Eventually, however, a fairly satisfactory decision was arrived at by which the old boundary was followed in respect of all uncultivated lands, (the result being to give the bulk of the area in dispute to Sahuria), while in regard to the 203 bighas possession was found to be with the Arnawa proprietor, whatever the actual legal title of the proprietor of Tauzi No. 5082 in Sahuria might be.

Unfortunately when the case went up to the Commissioner on review, though the decision was upheld on the really difficult point in regard to this estate (and also in regard to the land claimed by one other estate bearing Tauzi No. 5083), the whole of the area in dispute between the other 4 estates of Sahuria and Arnawa was given to the latter, in spite of the fact that it was uncultivated and shown in the Revenue Survey maps of the former village on the ground that no effect had been given to the old civil court decrees under which the title to these lands was declared to be with the Sahuria maliks, and that their possession by the Arnawa malik had been undisturbed. The Commissioner appears to have been under the impression that these proprietors had made no actual claim to these lands even before the Khanapuri officers, and that possession of Arnawa prior to the old civil suits had been effective; both these impressions were apparently mistaken, and the result is somewhat unfortunate, as further litigation as to this boundary must almost necessarily follow.

89. One unfortunate result of the difficult nature of the boundary disputes in this area was that when the decisions came up before my predecessor on appeal, it was found necessary in several instances to remand them for further enquiry at attestation. There were twelve such cases in Gogri thana alone, exclusive of the

Remanded cases.

Arnawa-Sahuria case just referred to. This of course added a good deal to the already heavy work of the attestation officers, besides delaying attestation through the fact that the records were incomplete.

This is not a very important matter where the dispute relates to only a few plots, but where the area is large, it may mean a delay of a week or even longer just at a time when every day is important, and naturally, though unfortunately, it is the big disputes that ordinarily require further enquiry. My personal experience on this point is rather in connection with work in North Bhagalpur, but I am inclined to think, from the cases I had to deal with there, that, in the long run, time would be saved if the khanapuri officers were required to keep a more elaborate record of the evidence recorded in important cases than is done at present. My experience was that the decisions were usually correct, but the reasons given for them could not be followed for want of a more complete record, and in numerous cases where the khanapuri officer stated in general terms that the landlord or his agent had admitted this, or advanced this or that piece of evidence, the accuracy of this report was impugned, and the point could not be positively decided, except by a fresh enquiry made by another officer.

90. A cognate question to which reference may also be made here is the tendency, first manifested to any considerable extent in North Monghyr, to re-open already-decided boundary disputes or to start fresh disputes at later stages, notably during attestation and under section 103A.

Re-opening of disputes at later stages.

91. As the law stands, a dispute once decided by an Assistant Superintendent of Survey is open to appeal to the Superintendent of Survey, and against the latter's order the Commissioner may be moved to use his general power of revision. It is further provided by section 62 of the Survey Act that where an appeal to the Superintendent of Survey or Commissioner has not been filed, it shall not be open to the Civil Court to reconsider the finding of the Assistant Superintendent of Survey. This latter section does not of course debar a landlord from bringing a title suit where the Assistant Superintendent of Survey has found him out of possession, but it does effectually debar him from going to the Civil Court and pleading possession. The Survey Act therefore provides a certain amount of finality, but unfortunately (or some may say fortunately) the officer preparing a record-of-rights has to record, under section 102 (a) and (d), "the name of each tenant or occupier" and "of each tenant's landlord," and under section 103A, the Revenue Officer, after draft publication of the record, has to "receive and consider any objections which may be made to any entry therein, or to any omission therefrom." Under both these sections therefore a dispute as to whether particular plots belong to one tenant's holding or another, or one landlord's village or another, can be raised, and this is of course what a boundary dispute is. I am unable, however, to accept the view that these sections justify an indiscriminate demand for a re-consideration of every order passed during the khanapuri stage by the Assistant Superintendents of Survey. This was the view taken, however, by the proprietors of the Srinagar-Banaili Estates and others in North Monghyr, and several of the Attestation Officers. I regret to say, paid little heed to the rules and instructions given in sections 5 to 11 of the Settlement Manual, and made elaborate and unnecessary enquiries into cases which had already been disposed of after careful enquiry.

92. As a matter of fact wrong decisions as to boundary at the khanapuri stage based on wrong findings as to possession of cultivated plots are bound, almost mechanically, to come to light during attestation, when the tenant is concerned, not so much with what landlord has a right to collect rents from him, as with what his legal rent and what his holding is; moreover the Attestation Officer has a much better opportunity of examining the landlord's papers in detail, and deciding whether they are genuine or not. The tendency therefore to encourage indiscriminate re-opening of boundaries not only keeps such disputes alive, but interferes with the chances open to the Attestation Officer of ascertaining and correcting what is wrong. In dealing later with North Bhagalpur, I was able to check to some extent the tendency displayed in North Monghyr by the issue of a special circular drawing attention to the rules embodied in the

Modification of boundary dispute, decisions when permissible.

Settlement Manual, and insisting that a *prima facie* case for revision must be made out before any re-enquiry was held. Had this order been in force in Monghyr, there would have been, I believe, much less re-opening of disputes decided during Khanapuri, and the attestation officers would consequently have been spared a good deal of unnecessary work.

93. That the work done by the Assistant Settlement Officers in the decision of boundary disputes was generally satisfactory, is shown by the appeal statistics which are shown in the table already given. The percentage of appeals filed to original cases is considerably higher than it was in any of the districts of North Bihar previously brought under Survey and Settlement, the explanation being mainly that the Srinagar-Banaili proprietors contested all decisions which gave any part of their villages as surveyed in 1887-1888 to others. The results however were entirely satisfactory; in only 9 out of nearly 800 cases decided were the original orders passed reversed, and in only 19 did they require any modification. In a large number of cases appeals were filed *pro forma* under the mistaken idea that, unless the order of the Assistant Superintendent, of Survey was appealed against, section 62 of the Survey Act barred a subsequent action in the Civil Court. As I have already explained, a decision as to possession cannot bar a suit to establish title. In several cases the Commissioner was moved to exercise the powers of revision, but, with the exception of the Sahuria-Arnawa case above referred to, he declined to interfere in any case.

Attestation.

94. The following statement shows the work done season by season :—

SEASON.			Number of villages attested.	Area in square miles.	Number of plots attested.	Number of holdings attested.	REMARKS.
1901-1902	...	...	1,176	723	796,821	216,496	
1902-1903	...	...	364	647.7	487,642	97,013	
1903-1904	...	...	3	0.2	143	66	
Total			1,543	1,371.3	1,284,606	313,575	

95. The first season's work was confined to thanas Teghra and Beguserai, and was divided among 8 attestation officers. In the second season thana Gogri and the Government estates in South Monghyr were attested by five officers; the small area dealt with in the third season consisted of a few scattered plots forming Government estates which had been overlooked in the previous year. Except for this the programme was fully worked up to in the first two seasons, though, owing to the difficulties to be described later, most of the officers had to work late into the hot weather months. Besides the above, a more or less complete re-attestation of one circle in thana Gogri was made in 1903-04, for reasons which will be set forth in a later paragraph. (See paragraph 139 *infra*.)

96. Most of the difficult work was in the earlier season in thanas Teghra and Beguserai, where the presence of numerous petty landlords and the fact that so many of these, as well as of their tenants, belonged to the notoriously litigious Babhan caste, made the work, even where disputes were comparatively few, extremely complicated, and where, as was generally the case, disputes among the landlords and between them and their tenants were numerous, the task of the Attestation Officers was a specially difficult one.

97. The procedure followed in attestation differed in no material respect from that followed in Darbhanga and other Bihar districts, a full description of which has been given in previous reports. The general classification of the nature of the difficulties that beset the work, given in those reports, requires little modification for North

Monghyr, and in the present section of this chapter I propose merely to illustrate the different classes of difficulties and disputes by some of the more conspicuous instances of each that actually cropped up in this area.

98. Of these, rent disputes and difficulties in attesting rents are the most important, and it may be said generally of thana Teghra, and, to a less extent, of thana

Rents.

Beguserai, that rent disputes were almost universal, the main reason therefor being that, in the first instance, few of the petty proprietors keep proper *jama bandis* or rent papers of any kind, and that in consequence the tenants pay irregularly, and when it comes to a definite determination of what their rent is, they are as apt to understate the amount as the landlord is to overstate it. In the second place, the area being one of very considerable fertility and the pressure of population on the soil excessive, landlords had begun to substitute, or to endeavour to substitute, competitive rents for the old time-honoured "pargana" rates; enhancements, many of them illegal enhancements, were therefore numerous. In specific areas the rent question was mixed up with that of *kamat* or proprietor's private land, failure to enhance rents successfully having led to attempts, often successful, to oust raiyats from their holdings, and either hold them in *khas* cultivation or lease them out at higher rates to other tenants. Elsewhere the demand for produce rents either of the *batai* or *mankhap* kind, and the inclusion of *abwab* and illegal cesses in the cash rent added additional complication to the question of the determination of rent legally payable.

99. In both these thanas as well as in Gogri it was considered necessary

Security of undisputed rents.

to warn all officers employed on attestation work that scrutiny of undisputed rents was just as necessary as careful enquiry into cases of the disputed rents. In Darbhanga it was found that over large areas owned by the Maharaja and others illegal enhancements of rent had been numerous and it was considered necessary to cut these down, even where there was no apparent dispute. Indications were not wanting during the *khanapuri* stage that enhancements, legal and illegal, were numerous in Teghra and Beguserai, and though, speaking generally, in this area the tenants were able to stand up for their own rights and were prone rather to dispute a fair statement of rents than to agree to take no action to prevent enhanced rents being attested, it was essential that attestation officers should be on the look out to detect cases of enhancement where there was no apparent dispute. Reference will be made to specific cases in succeeding paragraphs, which will indicate the extent to which scrutiny of rents was necessary in the interests of the classes of tenants less able than others to stand up for their rights.

100. Of other disputes and difficulties, the most frequent and important

Other disputes.

were those arising from the suppression, or attempted suppression, of tenants, and questions of status, more especially of the indigo factories in lands held by them on various terms. Special difficulties were also met with in regard to the recording of the *bhaisunda* and *jalkar* mahals, the attestation of *jagir* lands in Srinagar-Banaili villages, and the re-opening of boundary disputes between the latter and their neighbours.

101. Mr. Monahan writes that "in an area of this kind where almost

Manjhaul, a specially-difficult area.

every village was difficult, I am rather at a loss to know which of them to choose for special description as being more than usually complicated. However, I think no other portion of this area surpassed the country in the neighbourhood of Manjhaul in the north-east corner of thana Beguserai with regard to number of disputes and the general confusion and complications of the work."

The chief of these villages are Manjhaul, Patisara, Maheswara, Dafarpur and Tikanpura. These five villages were full of pattidari disputes of the most complicated character.

102. The cause of these disputes was briefly as follows :—

A typical pattidari dispute.

Manjhaul Factory formerly had 16 annas proprietary interest in all these villages as malik of some pattis and as ticcadars of others. During this period it had formed the

lands of these villages into large indigo "chaklas," and did not preserve the former patti boundaries. When these leases expired it was impossible to tell which lands the factory was holding as ticcadar and which as malik. Hence arose the disputes. The attestation officer into whose area these villages fell (Babu H. K. Moitra) did his best to decide these disputes in accordance with actual possession. However, the matter was one of extreme difficulty owing to the hostility of the contending parties and the confusion into which the affairs of these villages had fallen. Though he eventually managed to complete attestation of the five villages, his health broke down under the strain and he had not succeeded in really ending the disputes between the parties. Subsequently M. Ahmad Ali Khan, who had been sent to relieve him of some of his work, managed to induce Manjhaul Factory and their chief opponent, Rai Kashi Prasad, who owns the largest share of these villages, to come to terms. A preliminary compromise was concluded about the middle of May. The basis of the compromise was the old khetbat map, and the general terms were that Manjhaul Factory and Rai Kashi Prasad were to surrender to one another any lands which they did not hold in accordance with the khetbat map (raiya's rights in those lands being left unaffected); indigo lands found in the possession of the factory not in accordance with khetbat map were to be left in the factory's possession and the factory was to pay a fair rent as raiya to Rai Kashi Prasad. By the time this compromise was effected, the five villages had already been attested and some of the records had been draft published.

In order to give effect to the compromise, re khanapuri and re-attestation would be necessary; and as it was too late in the season to undertake the work, it was postponed until the following cold weather. Meantime the parties to the compromise were ordered to deposit costs and to demarcate on the ground the boundaries of the pattis in accordance with the khetbat and sulenama. Unfortunately, however, they did not take proper steps to do this, and, moreover, it was found that there was a fatal flaw in the compromise. Only Manjhaul Factory and Rai Kashi Prasad had joined in this compromise. The other numerous maliks had not been made parties. The result of this was that while Rai Kashi Prasad had undertaken to surrender to the factory in accordance with the khetbat land in which he had at present 16 annas proprietary possession, the factory had undertaken to give up to Rai Kashi Prasad land in all of which it had not 16 annas possession. As the other co-sharers of this land had not joined in the compromise and would not now agree to accept it, the whole thing broke down and the records were left as they were, and the parties had to be left to file objections to what had been done under section 103A or section 106. This they did, and to some extent the existing entries were revised, but, in the absence of a common agreement, a thoroughly satisfactory job could not be made of it.

103. All the villages belonging to the Mahanth Lachmi Das of Salauna gave trouble at attestation. This landlord gave considerable trouble during khanapuri, and he was described in the first annual report for this area "as bearing the unenviable reputation of being the most oppressive landlord in the subdivision." This reputation he fully lived up to during the attestation stage, and every one of his villages was full of disputes.

104. In Salauna itself (near Bakri) the Mahanth claimed rent at rates varying from Rs. 3-9 to Rs. 7 per bigha, the raiyas stating the rate to be only from Re. 1 to Rs. 2-12 and Rs. 3. From enquiry, it appeared that the previous Mahanth, Ram Saran Das, had been killed by the raiyas in 1873 owing to an attempt to raise the rents from Re. 1, Rs. 2-12 and Rs. 3 to Rs. 2 and Rs. 4. However, it seemed that rents had been paid at the rates of Rs. 2 and Rs. 4 for some time before the passing of the Bengal Tenancy Act. The subsequent enhancements by the present Mahant to Rs. 3-9 and Rs. 7 were after the passing of the Bengal Tenancy Act and were above the legal limit, and so were disallowed, and rents attested at Rs. 2 and Rs. 4. These disputes came up again under section 103A and section 106, and it is a matter for regret that the Mahanth succeeded in inducing the case officer to record the higher rents claimed, on the ground that in the interval between attestation and final publication he had got decrees against the tenants for arrears of rent at those rates.

105. In Nadilmani, another village which adjoins Salauna and belongs to the same Mahanth, there was a very bitter dispute arising from the fact that the malik had ousted a good many tenants and converted their lands into his "bakasht" or settled them with other tenants. In one patti in particular, the ijmali patti, the dispute was specially complicated, and the struggle between the ousted Babhan tenants headed by one Sorab Koer, and the Mahanth, particularly bitter. It seemed that in 1301 or 1302 the Mahanth dispossessed some of the Salauna raiyats of their lands and settled them with raiyats of another village, Chak Hamid, who were still in possession at khana-puri. Before attestation however the Mahanth had forcibly ejected those raiyats and sowed a "makai" crop in the land. However, he was not allowed to reap this crop, for the Salauna raiyats who had been dispossessed several years before stepped in and forcibly cut it. This land was left recorded in the names of the Chak Hamid raiyats. At attestation, therefore, there were three sets of claimants, the original Salauna tenants, those of Chak Hamid and the Mahanth; when the real facts were ascertained, the attestation officer had no option but to retain the names of the Chak Hamid tenants as the Salauna men had been out of possession for eight years or more, and the Chak Hamid men had themselves only just been dispossessed and that illegally.

In other cases the Mahanth's possession had to be upheld for similar reasons, and the result was that the Salauna men became somewhat obstreperous, and Sorab Koer was fined heavily by the attestation officer for importunence, an order which resulted in a forcible rescue from lawful custody, but finally in a general apology, and the remission of part of the fine.

106. Another village in thana Beguserai which deserves special mention is Kasmaut. This is a large village of nearly 10,000 acres, situated in the south-east corner of the thana just north of Lakho station in the middle of the extensive plain which runs from Beguserai town east towards thana Gogri.

During khanapuri a considerable amount of ejectment and suppression of raiyats was discovered in this village, and it was anticipated that its attestation would prove a very difficult task. One of the best of the Assistant Settlement Officers, Pandit Rama Ballabh Misra, was deputed to do the attestation of the area containing the village. Though the anticipation of the difficulty of its attestation was found to be fully justified, the nature of the difficulties was not quite what had been expected. The land of this village yields only one crop a year, viz., a *rabi* crop; it is all flooded in the rains and it is cultivated almost entirely by "pahi" raiyats who come from long distances attracted by the prospect of the splendid *rabi* crop it usually yields.

This whole village belongs to three joint maliks, all residents of Naokothi, a village eight miles north of Beguserai town, Jagdeo Narain Singh (commonly known as Jaggoo Singh), 4 annas; Banarasi Prasad Singh, 4 annas; Ajodhya Prasad Singh 8 annas.

107. Jaggoo Singh is a man of notorious character. He is of the Babhan caste and is extremely litigious; has a fair knowledge of law and is most unscrupulous in the way in which he applies this knowledge. During khanapuri great difficulty was found in inducing any raiyats to claim their lands. However the papers of one landlord, Ajodhya Prasad Singh, were got hold of, and from these the names of the raiyats were discovered, and as many as possible were entered in the records. The attestation was taken up early in November 1901. At the commencement any raiyats who attended, merely did so in order to return their parchas and surrender their fields. From enquiries made, it subsequently transpired that the real quarrel was not so much between the malik and the raiyats as between the maliks themselves. The origin of the quarrel between the maliks was as follows: In 1285 Jaggoo Singh (4 annas malik), took a sub-lease of the remaining 12 annas, and so obtained 16 annas proprietary interest in the village.

During this time he endeavoured to get hold of a large slice of a neighbouring village of Nima. However, Jaggoo Singh lost his case. He then persuaded his raiyats to file in Court relinquishments of the land they had falsely claimed. He told them that, unless they did so, they would be subjected

to severe legal penalties for having claimed land that did not belong to them. As soon as they filed these relinquishments, he turned round and forcibly ousted them from their genuine holdings in Kusmaut amounting to 1,200 bighas. Some of the unfortunate tenants went to Court, but the relinquishment petitions of the lands they had falsely claimed were made use of by Jaggoo Singh as if they referred to the genuine holdings, and so these raiyats lost their case. They had cut their own throats, for in the case against the neighbouring village Nima these tenants had sworn that they possessed no lands in Kusmaut, except the lands in dispute. They had to do this, in order to make the areas claimed by them correspond with the areas entered in the genuine receipts that they produced. Some of the tenants endeavoured to get out of the difficulty by admitting that they had sworn falsely in the case against Nima; but those who made this admission were convicted of perjury. Thus Jaggoo Singh triumphed, and his unfortunate instruments and victims came to grief. In 1299, when the 12 annas share reverted to direct management, the co-sharer maliks wanted to divide up the *khudkasht* lands, including the above mentioned 1,200 bighas. However, Jaggoo Singh objected and claimed this 1,200 bighas as his occupancy holding. A number of criminal and civil suits ensued, but eventually the 12 annas maliks obtained a decree from the Civil Court, and the land was divided up. Jaggoo Singh had to pay heavy damages to his chief opponent, Ajodhya Prasad Singh, 8 annas malik. This quarrel came to an end in 1303. Previously to this, between 1300 and 1303, Ajodhya Prasad had settled a lot of land with raiyats, and this settlement was confirmed by all the landlords in 1303. Peace reigned in the village for one year. In 1304, Ajodhya Prasad and Jaggoo Singh started fighting again over a small plot of homestead land, and the whole quarrel was renewed. Jaggoo Singh repudiated the raiyats whom he had formerly recognised, and he got a notice under section 144 served against Ajodhya Prasad forbidding him to settle any more lands as he was only an 8 annas malik. He also filed 27 ejectment suits, in which he made Ajodhya a party and claimed heavy mesne profits; he had carefully abstained from granting any printed receipts to the tenants, though Ajodhya Prasad had been doing so. While this fresh quarrel was still in progress, our operations started; owing to these quarrels between the maliks all the raiyats, both old and new alike, feared to go near the village or to claim any lands. This was what Jaggoo Singh wanted, he wished to drive away all the raiyats, not out of hostility to them, but in order to ruin his bitter enemy Ajodhya Prasad.

108. After discovering all these facts, Pandit Rama Ballab Misra did his utmost to bring about a reconciliation between Jaggoo Singh and Ajodhya Prasad. Strangely enough Jaggoo Singh soon expressed his willingness to come to terms and to accept all the new raiyats, provided his co-sharers did the same. The co-sharers were only too glad to agree to this. Jaggoo Singh filed a written admission accepting the raiyats. It was at first proposed that the raiyats should pay enhanced rent of annas 4 per bigha; however this proposal was subsequently dropped, and instead the raiyats had to pay a lump sum per bigha as *salami*. Thus the attestation of a most difficult village was brought to a successful conclusion. Pandit Rama Ballabh Misra deserves great credit for accomplishing this task; he was aided in it by Babu Bhagwati Charan Mitter, 1st Munsiff of Begusarai, who used his influence in inducing Jaggoo Singh to come to terms. It is satisfactory to note that only 11 petitions under section 103A were filed in this village after draft publication. These mostly had reference to clerical errors. Another pleasing fact is that since the conclusion of our operations there have been practically no quarrels in this village.

109. In village Kaith, which adjoins Kusmaut on the west, we get as instance of a rent dispute further complicated by the question of *kamat*. This village contains 25 tauzis formed out of one parent estate by successive batwaras in the years 1292, 1301 and 1306 Faslî. The land of the villages is divided into two main classes, *kamat* and *non-kamat*. The former is held mostly by resident raiyats, and the latter by "Pahi" raiyats. The rent for the so-called *kamat* lands is higher than that of the other lands. The rent disputes were confined chiefly to the *kamat* lands, for which the maliks claimed Rs. 5, and in a few

cases Rs. 6, per bigha, and the raiyats at first stated Rs. 2-8. It seemed that the rents of these so-called *kamat* lands had been enhanced after batwara in 1306. The raiyats eventually admitted that their rates before the 1306 batwara were from Rs. 3-8 to Rs. 4-2, and these were then enhanced to Rs. 5 and Rs. 6. The maliks admitted the enhancement to Rs. 5 and Rs. 6, but denied that the former rates were Rs. 3-8 and Rs. 4-2; they further contended that these enhancements were legal, inasmuch as the lands were *kamat*, and so no occupancy rights could be acquired. It was eventually decided that there was not sufficient evidence to show that the land was really *kamat*, and that, moreover, even supposing the land was originally *kamat*, as the raiyats were not holding it under a lease for a term of years or from year to year, section 116 would not prevent them from acquiring occupancy rights. It was held moreover that the general evidence showed that the rates before 1306 varied between Rs. 4 and Rs. 4-8. Therefore, the Rs. 5 rate claimed by the malik was allowed in those cases in which it had been collected, as it did not appear that this rate involved an enhancement of more than 2 annas in the rupee. The Rs. 6 rate was disallowed.

110. The village Bhurwar, in Beguserai thana, is a striking instance of the good done by settlement operations in the matter of protecting the interests of the weak. During *khausapuri* a large area was recorded as being the *bakasht* of the maliks Daulat and Phunan Singh, but the Attestation Officer very soon discovered that this included the holdings of no less than 70 tenants whose names had been suppressed, and who had been prevented from coming up to claim their own.

111. In Kaithawa, Janki Prasad similarly "suppressed" raiyats, and when this was found out, and the land had been recorded in the tenants' names, he proceeded to oust one of them forcibly, and, being opposed, a riot took place, in which considerable damage was done to men of both parties. It is a matter for congratulation that the criminal case which ensued resulted in the conviction of Janki Prasad's men.

112. In Bihat, a large village in Teghra thana, besides numerous complicated *patti* and rent disputes, progress was hampered by the fact that, effect having just been given to a partition, it was necessary to re-write the draft record before attestation could be proceeded with.

113. In Rani, another big village in the same area, beside some troublesome dispute as to status to which reference will be made later, there was a great dispute over the question of *mankhap* rents.

An area of 677 bighas had been held till 1301 by the Begamsarai Factory, and on the expiry of their lease this was settled on *batai* terms with a number of tenants by Rai Kashi Prasad and other landlords. Six years later they induced these tenants to execute *kabulyats* agreeing to pay *mankhap* rents at the rate of 5 or 6 maunds per bigha. The peculiarity of these agreements was, however, that the produce rent was calculated in terms of special crops, such as chilis, tobacco, wheat, maize, etc., and it was stipulated that, where the tenant did not grow these particular crops, payment was still to be made at their equivalent in money, subject to a modest maximum of Rs. 50 per bigha in case the value of these crops happened to be excessively high. A further stipulation was that, if the tenant cultivated the land, or allowed it to be cultivated with indigo, he should pay an annual rent of Rs. 100. A translation of one of these extraordinary *kabulyats* is given below.

TRANSLATION OF A MANKHAP KABULYAT OF RANI, THANA No. 43, TEGHRA.

114. I, Daho Paswan, son of Nanda Paswan, deceased, by caste Dusadh, by occupation a cultivator, am resident of Rani, pargana Akbarpur Rani, thana and sub-registry Teghra, and subdivision Beguserai, district Monghyr.

As I have taken 2 bighas of land situated in village Rani, taluka Khemkaranpur, pargana Akbarpur, Rani which bears tauzi No. 3179 with a fixed

Government revenue of Rs. 78-11, with boundaries given below, out of the *thudkasht* lands of the maliks, which have been in the direct cultivation of the maliks and their thikadars, on agreeing to pay 5 maunds per bigha of crops by *pucca* weight, *i.e.*, according to the *paseri* of the malik's katcherry and the said village, with this detail that, out of the crops, 2 maunds *mirchai*, 1 maund 10 seers wheat, 6 *paseris rahar* and 1 maund *makai*, as detailed below, besides Road and Public cess, with the exception of *tar*, *khajoor*, mangoes, *mahua*, *kathal*, *semur*, *jamun* and other trees fruit-bearing and non-fruit-bearing, and bamboo topes growing on the said lands for three years, from 1308 to 1310 Fasli, from Rai Kashi Prasad Singh and Rai Kishun Prasad Singh and Rai Ram Chandar Prasad Singh, sons of Baijnath Singh, deceased, by caste Kayasth, by profession Zamindar, resident of Patna city, mahalla Diwan, mahal proprietors, I present this kabulyat in favour of Mr. G. C. Diner, Manager and General Agent of the said Rai Sahibs, and admit and record that, by cultivating the said area with plough and plough bullocks, I shall deliver the crops according to the *kists* noted below in the zamindari katcherry to the said maliks, and shall thereupon obtain receipts for the same year by year and *kist* by *kist*. In case I do not deliver the crops mentioned above, I shall, on the expiry of the *kist*, pay those crops with damages without any objection. If I am unable to deliver the crops on the appointed *kist*, then I shall pay the price of those crops according to the rates prevailing in the market at the time to the agents of the maliks with damages, and shall raise no objection to payment at the market rates before the maliks' agent, or before the Court, nor raise any objection about loss caused by nature. If I or my successors raise any such objection, it will be invalid before the Court. If I fail to deliver the crops or their value in three *kists*, then the said Manager of the said maliks can eject me from these lands, and keep them in their own occupation or settle them with other raiyats. In such a case I or my successors shall have no claim concerning the unexpired term of this kabulyat about ejectment or damages for these *thika manhunda* lands. If I make any such claim, it will be invalid before the Court. On the expiration of the term of the kabulyat, the aforesaid maliks or the Manager shall have power to legally restrain me from it, and have the land turned into its original condition, at my cost, to cut down any trees which may be found on the land, and recover such damages from me as may be proper. Besides, without written permission of the said maliks, I shall have no power to grow in these lands any other crops than *mirchai*, wheat, *rahar* and *makai*; then also the said maliks shall receive from me 5 maunds of good crops per bigha, *i.e.*, 2 maunds *mirchai*, 1 maund 10 seers wheat, 6 *paseris rahar* and 1 maund *makai* year by year. If I fail to deliver these crops at the appointed times, then I shall pay their value at the market rates of these times, and shall raise no objection before the maliks or before the Court to pay their value at the market rates. If any such objection is raised by me or my successors, it will be considered invalid before the Court.

But be it known that, because the price of the crops, *mirchai*, wheat, *rahar*, *makai*, etc., sometimes rises very high, it is necessary to express that, if their prices rise so high that their value per bigha would exceed Rs. 50, then the said maliks shall have no right to recover their value at more than Rs. 50 per bigha. If at appointed times I do not deliver the crops fixed, then the said maliks or their Manager shall have power to recover their value with damages in such proper ways as they like.

Be it known that the measurement of lands in this village is done by a *laggi* of $5\frac{3}{4}$ *haths*, each *hath* being of 7 *giras*. By this measurement I have taken *thika* of the *manhunda* lands. Even during the term of this kabulyat I shall have no power to transfer the lands or settle them, or give them in *kurtauli* for cultivation of indigo. If I do so, those acts will be invalid, and as a penalty for growing indigo or for giving it in *kurtauli*, I and my successors shall be liable to pay the last mentioned money value which is Rs. 100 per year. I have accordingly executed this kabulyat.

115. It is interesting to notice that in many cases the raiyats who had held these lands on *batai* terms did not execute these kabulyats in their own names, but in the names of their servants and dependants, the idea being to protect their other ancestral holdings from sale in the event of their failing to satisfy the

Kabulyats executed *benami*.

demands for these *mankhap* holdings. Though in the majority of cases the tenants admitted the claims of the landlords in respect of these holdings, they were not anxious to have them recorded as *mankhap*; but though the conditions are extremely hard, there was no option but to do so, and 304 holdings covering an area of 430 acres were so recorded. The tenants were at the same time informed that, if they had any objection, they should apply for commutation, which, as a matter of fact, most of them did.

116. In Naula, to which reference has been made in a previous chapter as the site of an interesting old fort, there were complicated *patti* disputes, owing to the fact that the Choudhries owned a part share in 4 estates and the whole of a fifth, and naturally, in the absence of specific boundaries, tried to get as much land recorded in the latter as possible. It was only after the boundaries shown in the old *thakbast* map had been relaid, on the ground that the disputes arising out of those claims could be satisfactorily decided.

117. Gaura was one of the villages where the tenants had the upper hand, and paid little or no rent to their unfortunate landlords, except where it served their purpose to do so. The landlords had no reliable papers to go upon, and had not dared to sue in the Civil Courts. Fortunately the Attestation Officer, Babu S. C. Basu, was able to bring about a satisfactory compromise in the case of the majority of the tenants.

118. In Sanjat, there was a long-standing dispute arising out of an attempt on the part of the landlords to enhance rents met by an attempt on the part of the tenants to possess themselves of a large area (some 800 bighas) which had undoubtedly been in the landlords' *khas* possession for 20 years. This dispute had, prior to our operations, given rise to several riots, and at least two murders, and the Attestation Officer was consequently confronted by a mass of conflicting evidence manufactured for the occasion or for the previous criminal cases, and in the end he had practically to decide the disputes both as to possession and rent on the 20 years old *batwara* papers.

119. The cases just quoted illustrate the difficulties of the work of the first season in Teghira and Boguserai; in Gogri, which was attested in the following season, the work was on the whole much simpler; villages owned by petty proprietors were few in number, and the large jungly tracts in the centre, though not without difficulty, were as a rule free from disputes as to rent and possession, the competition in this area being still mainly among the landlords for tenants, and not with one another or their tenants, for land or rent. In the north-west corner, however, in the zamindari of Ram Bahadur Singh and his uncle Udit Narain Singh illegal dispossession and suppression of raiyats was found to be very common. In the case of Ram Bahadur Singh it was his *amlas* who were mainly responsible for this state of affairs, and the Attestation Officer was able to persuade his Diwan to reinstate most of the dispossessed tenants, and to bring about a better understanding between Ram Bahadur and his tenants. The same, however, cannot be said for the uncle, Udit Narain Singh, whose influence in this area is considerable, and who is described by Mr. Monahan as "one of the most unscrupulous and oppressive landlords in North Monghyr."

120. Wholesale dispossession of tenants was met with in Sonihar and Imlidih, and the tenants had for the most part left their homes in disgust and gone to areas where conditions seemed more favourable. Instances of illegal distraint of defaulting tenants' crops in this zamindar's villages are apparently common, and one such case came to the personal notice of Mr. Monahan, when inspecting a camp in the neighbourhood.

121. In the temporarily-settled estate Charakhaira, of which the settlement-holder, though nominally the mother of Udit Narain Singh, is really Udit Narain Singh himself, an extraordinary state of things was brought to light, which shows up very strongly the thoroughly unscrupulous character of this landlord.

The settlement expired in 1901 and was renewed from year to year until the completion of our operations. In order to get favourable re-settlement from the Collector, Udit Narain endeavoured to get the rents of this village attested at rates far below the actual existing rates. His method of doing so was interesting in that it aimed at meeting and defeating what he imagined to be the usual settlement procedure in case of disputed rents. He ordered all the raiyats under pain of severe penalties to state rents at the absurdly low rates of eight annas per bigha, while at the same time he himself stated rents at the true rates of Rs. 2-8 and Rs. 3 per bigha, and filed one year's *jamabandi* showing these rates. His idea was that the Attestation Officer was certain, in a case of this kind, to attest according to the raiyats' statements, especially as the malik's claim was not supported by any *jamabandis*. Had this succeeded, the total rent-roll would have been attested at about Rs. 2,000, instead of at Rs. 10,000, the actual figure, and so Udit Narain Singh would have had some hope of getting a settlement at very low terms from the Collector; at the same time he had sufficient confidence in his influence over the tenants, and in their want of power to combine against him, to think that he could be able to go on collecting rents at the old rates of Rs. 2-8 and Rs. 3 in spite of lower rents having been attested. Thus he hoped to gain on both sides. However, the fraud was detected by the Attestation Officer, and the actual rents were attested. Another dodge was resorted to by Udit Narain, in order to lend some show of probability to the low rates claimed by the tenants. The land of this village is low and subject to flood, and is surrounded by embankments to protect the rice crop, and for the last few years Udit neglected to keep these embankments in repair, in order, to make the land appear to be of a poor quality. As a matter of fact, however, the land is good, and a very small outlay of capital would be sufficient to repair the "bandhs."

122. One of the most interesting cases that arose in this area was the claim put in by most of the tenants of Mussamat Azimunnissa of Bakhtiarpur to hold at fixed rates. The history of this case comes properly under the head of objections under section 103A, but it may be mentioned here that the tenants took advantage of the fact that their rents had not been enhanced for 20 years to claim to benefit by the presumption arising therefrom as to fixity of rents; at this stage rebutting evidence was not available, and the majority of the claims were allowed.

123. A curious instance of enhancement under cover of a fraudulent measurement came to light in this area. The *laggi* used was the ordinary village *laggi*, but in calculating areas every fraction of a *laggi*, however small, was treated as one *laggi*, and the result in the case of tenants holding a number of small plots was an enormous apparent increase of area, on which excess rents was assessed.

In a few other villages, belonging to the Babus of Chautham and Babu Tilakdhari Lal, measurement had been used as a lever for enhancement, but in no instance was the injustice of the measurement quite so glaring or so obvious as in that quoted.

124. In Balha Sanjhauti a long standing dispute between Ram Bahadur Singh and a local *goala* called Faudi Mandar, in which the *goala* tenants had sided with the latter, resulted in the former attempting to enhance rents by nearly 100 per cent., and, failing to secure this, forcibly ousting many of the tenants. To ensure their not returning, he sued them for arrears of rent for the years during which he had forcibly kept them out of possession, and sold up the holdings in execution of the decrees.

125. In Rani Shakarpura a former landlord, one Baiju Sing, had succeeded in getting his tenants to consent to an enhancement of five annas in the rupee, in order to enable him to redeem a mortgage. This, however, he failed to do, and the village being bought in by the mortgagee, the latter tried to collect the enhanced rent. The tenants naturally objected, and their objection was upheld by the Attestation Officer.

126. In thana Gogri, we came across, for the first time, the property of the Maharaja of Sonbarsa. Almost the whole of this malik's property lies in North Bhagalpur, but he possesses shares in several villages in North Monghyr.
 System of kabulyats and enhancement in the villages of Maharaja of Sonbarsa.
 In Saidpur Balha, one of these, we first discovered the existence of the practice of making the raiyats execute periodical kabulyats, involving in many cases an enhancement of rent, a practice which prevails throughout the Maharaja's estates in North Bhagalpur. The Maharaja was originally under the impression that the fact of making the raiyats execute fresh kabulyats every seven years was sufficient to prevent them from acquiring occupancy or settled rights, and that their rents could be legally enhanced more than once in 15 years: in other words he misunderstood the effects of section 20(1) and (2) and section 21(1) of the Bengal Tenancy Act. When this mistake was pointed out to him, he gave up the contention that the raiyats were not settled raiyats, but he still endeavoured to defend the enhancements upon other grounds. In Saidpur Balha, the Attestation Officer discovered three separate sets of kabulyats, one set executed in 1290, and another one in 1298 (accompanied by a measurement), and the third in 1305. As the 1298 enhancement was the first since the Bengal Tenancy Act, it was allowed, except in those cases in which it was more than two annas in the rupee. The 1305 enhancement was disallowed throughout. This decision was contested by the Maharaja unsuccessfully under section 103A, section 106, and finally on appeal to the Special Judge, but I understand he has made a further appeal to the High Court. The case is one of some importance, and I shall have occasion to refer to it again when dealing with case work.

127. Enhancements were also met with in Adabari and Narpur, villages belonging to the Chautham Babus, who have a reputation for oppression, and are certainly unpopular with their tenants. In both cases the enhancement was from Rs. 2-6 to Rs. 4 per bigha, or nearly 70 per cent.; but in Adabari the tenants being non-occupancy, the enhancement was not illegal. In Narpur, rents were attested at the rate of Rs. 2-6.
 Other cases of enhancement.

128. As in other North Bihar districts, so also in North Monghyr, the inclusion of *abwabs* in the rent was a favourite means of enhancement and a frequent source of quarrel. Among the *abwabs* met with, the following may be mentioned:—

These are all terms for the patwari's fee levied for writing receipts and keeping accounts at the rate of $\frac{1}{4}$ or $\frac{1}{2}$ anna in the rupee. This tax is known in other districts as *Tahrir*.
Farkana, Negi, Magni.

This is a tax of 1 anna in the rupee to defray the landlord's expenses of collection. It includes the patwari's *Tahrir*.
Kharcha or tausi-salami.

Batta or exchange compensation allowance is supposed to compensate for the exchange of *sicca* rupees into East India Company rupees.
Batta.

Originally a tax on pack-bullocks at the rate of annas 6 per bullock per year, sometimes levied on all bullocks. This tax is sometimes called *Aura*.
Bardana.

This is a fee on the sale of grain at the rate of $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ anna per rupee of the price. It is divided between the malik and the man who weighs the grain. Sometimes the term is confined to the levying of this tax on the exchange of grain for money by raiyats for the purpose of paying their rents, and is thus distinguished from the tax levied on the sale of the raiyats surplus grain which is called *chutki*.
Keali.

A marriage-tax paid to the malik by low caste people. The bridegroom pays Re. 1-1 at the time of the first ceremony and another Re. 1-1 when he brings his bride to his home. In the case of the re-marriage of widows only Re. 1-1 is charged.
Biadani or Shadiat.

Bhaisundha.

A tax on grazing buffaloes, at the rate of 4 annas per buffalo per year.

By this is meant the maliks' right to the free use of one plough from every raiyat who possesses a plough for three days in each year.

Harahi.

The above are general taxes. The following are special taxes paid by special classes of people:—

Karuncha, a tax of 8 annas per head paid by *goalas* who manufacture ghee for sale.

Tankar, a tax paid by weavers on their looms.

Dokani, a tax paid by shop-keepers.

Sonari, a tax paid by goldsmiths.

Thatheri, a tax paid by the manufactures of brass utensils.

Kandus, a tax paid by *kandus* for frying grain.

Dhunkar, a tax paid by *dhunias* for carding cotton.

Gareri, a tax paid on the manufacture of woollen blankets.

Charsa, a tax paid by *chamars* on the manufacture of shoes and for trade in hides.

Hatia, a tax on weighment of grain in a market divided between the weighman and the malik of the market.

Lahi, a tax paid by the manufacturers of waxen ornaments.

Basaurhi or house rent is, as a rule, levied on non-agricultural classes, such as merchants, shop-keepers, and manufacturers. This word is more generally used in the north of the district for house-rent than "*Motarpha*" which seems here to mean profession-tax, and there was thus occasionally some confusion in applying *khanapuri* rule 13 and attestation rule 68 which call house-rent *Motarpha* and profession tax *katiari*. The word *katiari* is not often used, and seldom understood in North Monghyr.

Gorhi, a tax levied on fishermen presumably similar to *jalkar*.

129. Of disputes as to status, reference has already been made to the claim put in by the raiyats of the Bakhtiarpur estate to "*Shara Muayan*" rights.

Disputes as to status.

In many of the factory villages there were difficult questions as to the status of the factory where they had continued in possession after the expiry of a lease, or had held lands at different times on different conditions.

Thus in Balha and Saidpur, Nayagaon Factory made extensive claims to raiyati status in respect of lands leased to them by the different petty proprietors. In some cases the whole share in the estate had been in lease, and in other cases only specific lands had been leased on the "*Sadua Patua*" system. In both cases the factory had remained in possession after the expiry of the leases, and at attestation claimed to be occupancy raiyats in these lands, in which they were actually mere trespassers. Indiscriminate claims were also made to *kaimi* status in respect of lands obtained from tenants on "exchange," but in none of these cases was the factory successful.

Similarly, in Rani the Begamsrai Factory claimed raiyati status in a considerable area, but only succeeded in establishing their title in a few instances. Elsewhere such claims were established, but in all cases careful enquiry was made before admitting the claims.

130. A similar case of special difficulty was that of Mr. H. O. Christian in the Government Estate Dhanupra. This came up

Different status case in Dhanupra. in the first instance during *khanapuri*, and was decided after reference to the Director. Both Mr. Christian and the tenants holding under him, however, raised the question again, and the dispute was not finally decided until another reference had been made to the Director. The case was briefly this, that Mr. Christian claimed raiyati status in an area of 2,559 bighas, 1,300 of which dated from his father's time and 1,259 had been acquired by himself. Mr. Christian and his father had been *mustajirs* of the estate for a long period, and it was urged on behalf of his tenants that his father had actually, though not in name, been *mustajir* from a much earlier time. This

was not however established, and the Collectarate map and khasra of 1885 showed that he had been described as an occupancy raiyat in respect of his father's old holding of 1,300 bighas and another 300 bighas subsequently acquired. The fact that he subsequently became *mustajir* could not affect his rights in respect of this area, but his contention that the other lands acquired during his lease were also raiyati lands could not be accepted, and his claims were eventually so decided.

At first sight it seems unfortunate that so large an area should have had to be recorded in a single tenant's name, but that the decision was a fair one is shown by the history of the estate, the present prosperity of which is almost entirely done to the exertions of Mr. Christian and his father in reclaiming, bringing under cultivation and finally protecting by embankments, a large part of what was once a mere expanse of swamp and jungle.

131. Another status case of rather peculiar interest was that of the priest of the temple of Jaimangalgarh, on an island in the Kabur Tal. The temple, which is dedicated to the Goddess Bhagwati or Kamla Devi, is held in great veneration, and the predecessors of the present priest received a regular pension or allowance from the Moghuls, and also from the British Government, down to 1830. Since then they have received no pension, but have paid no revenue, though the property is not recognised officially as revenue-free. It was eventually recorded as the property of Government in the possession of the priest as a rent-free tenant.

132. Reference has been made in the chapter on Revenue History to the Bhaissunda or grazing mahals. As there stated, there are now in existence four such mahals, viz., in tappas Haveli, Serauja, Bachauta and Chautham. As no specific lands are attached to these mahals a question arose whether any entry should be made in the records of their existence, and, if so, what form it should take. Eventually it was decided that these estates must be shown in the proprietary khewats of all villages appertaining to the respective tappas to which they are attached, but of course beyond the entry of the number and name of this mahal and the names of the proprietors no further entry could be made. To have recorded against them all the uncultivated land of the village over which the grazing rights can still be exercised would have been misleading, as the proprietors of the landed estates are entitled to bring these under cultivation at any time, and the grazing right then disappears. Consequently no areas have been recorded against these estates in the khewats or elsewhere in the record.

133. A similar difficulty arose in regard to certain *jalkars* or fishery rights. Here again rights were claimed and exercised in the rivers and swamps of certain parts of thana Gogri by persons who had no proprietary interest in the land estates in which these rivers and swamps were included. It was at first thought that, as in the case of the *bhaissunda* mahals, these *jalkars* were separate mahals with separate numbers on the tauzi roll. This was not however the case, the *jalkar* revenue having in all cases been tacked on to the demand of a particular land estate, and historically in all probability the *jalkar* right existed co-extensively with the right to collect rents for land; in course of time, however, the original land estates were split up, and the *jalkar* demand and rights continued to be attached to only one of them, the result being, as already stated, that the rights of the *jalkar* holders extended to villages in which they had ceased to have any interest. This is clearly evident from the history of *tappa* Chautham, originally a single estate from which five villages were resumed and permanently settled in 1851, the *jalkars* of these villages being expressly excluded from the settlement and left attached to *tappa* Chautham. Subsequently more new estates were created by partition, and the *jalkars* were expressly reserved to two of these (tauzis Nos. 4919 and 6069) to which they still appertain.

134. The entry of these *jalkar* rights was a matter of considerable difficulty, and as they did not constitute distinct mahals, and as section 102 does not authorise the record of any rights in water, it was finally decided to relegate entries relating to them to the village notes. But even this gave a

great deal of trouble, as there was a hot contest between a new purchaser, Babu Baijnath Goenka, and certain of the old proprietors of some 60 odd villages belonging to *taluka* Rasulpur Bhatgani. Careful enquiries were made both by the Attestation Officers and by Mr. Monahan, and entries were made in the village notes in accordance therewith. Appeals were filed against these entries both to myself and the Commissioner, but the latter supported me in declining to accept an appeal against an order made, after careful enquiry, which resulted merely in an entry in the village note, a note of information for the Collector, which had no evidential value; and the appellants were referred to the Civil Courts for adjudication of their respective rights.

135. Another matter of some difficulty which arose during the attestation of Gogri was with reference to a large number of *jagirs* situated within the external boundaries of Srinagar-Banaili villages. These are resumed *jagirs* and have been assessed with Government revenue; they belong to maliks other than the Srinagar-Banaili Raj. These *jagirs* were originally excluded from the present operations, on the ground that they had been included in the Srinagar-Banaili survey and settlement. During *khanapuri* a number of the maliks of these *jagirs* applied to have their lands surveyed and a record of rights prepared. These petitions were refused, on the ground that these lands have been excluded from our operations by Notification No. 2213T.—R., dated 16th November 1901. The following year during attestation these maliks made similar applications, which were again considered. From an examination of the Srinagar-Banaili maps and records, it seemed that many of these *jagirs* had not been surveyed in detail, nor had a complete record-of-rights been prepared. Thus in the maps in some cases only the external boundaries of the *jagirs* were found. In the records a full entry had been made in the *khewats*, but the *khatians* only gave the name of proprietor, the plot number, the boundaries and area, and a reference to the *khewat* number; they did not contain the names of the *raiyats* or their status or rent. It was first considered that we would have to include these *jagirs* within our operations, because a complete record-of-rights had not been prepared for them in the Srinagar-Banaili record. However, it was eventually decided to leave them alone, for the following reasons:—

(1) Only the *jagirdars* and none of the tenants had applied to us for a survey and settlement, and as a matter of fact the rights of the *jagirdars* as against Srinagar-Banaili and other landlords have already been fully recorded in the Srinagar-Banaili record.

(2) The work would be hardly worth the trouble and expense for these *jagir* lands, though amounting to over 5,000 bighas in all, were situated in small isolated blocks scattered over a large area.

(3) The work would involve considerable alteration in the Srinagar-Banaili records, which it was our business and policy to avoid as much as possible. The decision to take no action in respect of these *jagirs* was approved by the Director, and I think there can be no doubt as to its soundness; their identification would have been a work of very considerable intricacy, and in many cases we should have no doubt found that the boundaries were no longer as they were in 1887-88, and very considerable mutilation of the Banaili maps and records amounting in some cases perhaps to a revision of the whole record would have been necessary.

Moreover, for a very considerable number of them these records did actually contain details of the plots, and others were so small that it was unlikely that there were interests in them other than those of the *jagirdars* themselves. It is probable that the few proprietors who did apply for survey and settlement were men who either had, or imagined they had, a grievance against the Srinagar-Banaili estate.

136. There was some difficulty also in connection with the following Srinagar-Banaili villages in Gogri, viz.: Ingli, Timapur, Zorawarpur Patpar, Tomtha Patpar, Gangbara, Rajdhan and Sirnia. These are all diara villages which were included in the Srinagar-Banaili operations, but which had undergone considerable changes since 1887-88 through alluvion and deluvion. During the present operations only the new accretions not included in the Srinagar-Banaili maps were surveyed and *khanapuri*ed, and it was proposed to

prepare a record for these portions. But when attestation came on, it was found impossible to prepare separate records-of-rights for the newly-accreted portions, inasmuch as the entire area (both reformation and accretion) in each village was included in one jamabandi. Moreover, the Srinagar-Banaili records were found to be quite at variance with existing facts, owing to the diluvion and reformations that had occurred since they were prepared. It was then proposed to prepare an entirely new record for the whole village, but on further consideration it was decided that as the villages were all diara and obviously subject to constant changes, there was nothing to be gained by preparing a record-of-rights under Chapter X for them, and that all that was required was the usual topographical map. Before this decision was come to, a completely new record had actually been prepared for another such village (Madhopur Patpur), a small portion of which had been dealt with in 1887-88 in the Srinagar-Banaili operations. The rest of the village was then under water, and so had to be excluded. This area subsequently emerged from the Ganges, and was surveyed by us and a fresh record-of-rights was prepared for the whole area, including the small portion previously done. To legalise our action a special notification was required. Somewhat similar were the cases of two villages called Imadpur which were surveyed, khanapuried and attested during the Banaili-Srinagar operations, but for which no record-of-rights was finally framed, as they were found to belong chiefly to other maliks. Being essentially diara villages, they have also been excluded from the present operations, and topographical maps only were prepared. So also in Chak Prayag, in respect of which the Srinagar-Banaili proprietors applied for a survey and record-of-rights of 100 bighas which was alleged to have accreted since 1887-88, the application was rejected, and orders passed to survey the area topographically in the course of the survey of the Bhagalpur diara on to which it adjoined.

I have brought together all these cases, though, strictly speaking, only some of them gave trouble during the attestation stage; as a matter of fact, however, they took up a good deal of the attestation officer's time, as in no case were final orders passed until after a special report had been obtained from them as to the nature of the case.

137. The instances given in the foregoing paragraphs have been selected as illustrative of the class of dispute and the kind of difficulty which troubled the attestation officer in North Monghyr. Though numerous, they must not be assumed to be exhaustive, and though in the reading many of them seem now to have been comparatively small matters, it should not be inferred therefore that the work was comparatively easy. It is easy enough to say with only the decision and the salient facts before one that the decision is correct, but it was no easy matter in most cases to pick out those salient points and differentiate the relevant from the irrelevant; how difficult this frequently is it is perhaps impossible for any one but an Assistant Settlement Officer to realise.

138. The three villages attested in the third season (1903-04) were Khalifaganj, Arraria and Katghara; these are in Gogri thana, and contain an estate (Chak Karimullah) whose area is 141 acres. At first only the portion of the estate that lies in Khalifaganj was surveyed, as the other two villages had been included in the Srinagar-Banaili operations; but when the attestation of Khalifaganj came on in 1903, the malik applied to have a record prepared for the entire estate, and not only for the portion in Khalifaganj. It was then discovered that although the villages Arraria and Katghara had been included in the Srinagar-Banaili survey, a record-of-rights had only been prepared for the portions of those villages which belonged to the Srinagar-Banaili Raj, and not for the portions belonging to the maliks of the estate Chak Karimullah, which amounted to 101 acres. Therefore it was found necessary to survey and khanapuri the portions of this estate that lay in these two villages. As there was only one jamabandi for the whole estate, the attestation of Khalifaganj had to be postponed until the khanapuri of the other two portions was

completed. It was too late in the season to finish the work, and so the attestation of this estate had to be postponed till next year.

Besides these there was also attested this season a small Government estate in Gogri, named Tetrabad. At first this Tetrabad. estate could not be located, and the attestation officer in camp A searched for it during the season 1902-03 without success. It was eventually discovered, by the help of the Collectorate kanungo, in two Srinagar-Banaili villages, Mohaba and Tetrabad. The actual area in possession of Government through a thikadar was found to be only 7 acres. At first the Collectorate kanungo put forward a claim to a larger area, but this was subsequently withdrawn by the Collector, and we were asked to prepare a record-of rights for the area in present possession of Government. As the estate was in the diara, it was then too late in the season to do anything that year, and so the work had to be postponed till the following season.

139. Another important task which was undertaken in the season 1903-04 was the re-attestation of all the villages in attestation camp B in Gogri. The area assigned to this camp was the portion of this thana extending from the extreme north, including the villages round about Chapraun Factory, to near Khagaria Railway station in the south, and bounded on the west, roughly, by the road from Khagaria to Chapraun *via* Mora Ghat, and on the east, by the road from Khagaria to Chapraun *via* Matihani Ghat and Bakhtiarpur. This area had been entrusted to a newly-appointed Assistant Settlement Officer, Maulvi Amiruddin Ahmad. About two months after the close of his attestation camp serious rumours affecting the integrity of this officer reached the ears of the authorities. This led to a preliminary enquiry being made in a few villages in the month of August 1903 by M. Ahmad Ali with a view to testing the truth of those rumours, and also the nature of the work done by the attestation officer. The result of this preliminary enquiry was that while no sufficient evidence was discovered to prove the truth of the rumours affecting the attestation officer's integrity, there were good grounds for suspecting that the work done by him contained serious mistakes.

The conclusion so arrived at the higher authorities were not prepared to accept, and a further enquiry was ordered, and I was personally directed to frame specific charges against Maulvi Amiruddin Khan. This I was not in a position to do until the work done by him was tested throughout, and with the approval of the Director of the Department of Land Records, I deputed Maulvi Ashfaq Hossein to go over the whole area, inviting objections under section 103A to any entries in the record attested and revising where necessary, after re-examination of the papers, any or all of the work previously done. On the results of this work I was in a position to frame four specific charges against the attestation officer—of deliberately submitting false or misleading references, of attesting enhanced rents in defiance of express orders, and of lying in order to conceal his previous deception. On three of these charges and on an additional charge of having concealed the fact that he had previously been dismissed from the service of the Calcutta Corporation, the finding was against him, and he was eventually dismissed from Government service.

Some reference to this unpleasant incident was necessary if only to illustrate one of the reasons to which is due the discredit which has attached to settlement operations since they were extended to the Bhagalpur Division. As a matter of fact, apart from the specific instances of dishonest work discovered and proved against this officer, the general result of the examination of the attestation work showed that there was a wonderfully small percentage of error in the records due either to carelessness on the part of the attestation officer or slovenly or incompetent work on the part of his staff,—a result that may be taken as in itself an indication of the general high standard of the work done in the attestation camps, in spite of the necessarily hurried and uncomfortable conditions under which both attestation officer and his staff have more often than not to work.

DRAFT PUBLICATION.

140. The following statement shows the number of villages draft published in each season.

Draft Publication.

Season.	Number of villages attested.	Number of villages draft published.
1901-02	1,176	1,176
1902-03	364	363
1903-04	3	4
Total	1,543	1,543

This branch of the work calls for no special comment. Draft publication is now done in the village concerned by a kanungo attached to the attestation camp. A record is generally draft published within a fortnight from the completion of attestation, as soon as the preliminary check of the record is completed by the camp peshkar.

The one village that was attested in 1902-1903 but not draft published till 1903-1904 was Parsotimpur Diara, a village in Monghyr thana, containing a temporarily-settled estate. This was surveyed topographically at first, as it was all sand. Subsequently, however, we prepared a record-of-rights for it at the request of the Collector, as part of it had become fit for cultivation. However, it was not attested till the end of September 1903, and the record was draft published in the beginning of October. Hence the delay in draft publication is only apparent.

OBJECTIONS UNDER SECTION 103A.

141. The distribution of objections filed under section 103A is shewn in the following statement:—

Name of thana.	Number of section 103A of objections filed.	Area of thana in square miles.	Number of objections per square mile.	PERCENTAGE OF CASES IN THE THANA.	
				To the district total.	To the number of holdings in the thana.
Teghra	6,836	203'4	22'7	30'43	7'6
Begusarai	2,315	470'4	19'4	41'55	6'9
Gogri	5,784	625'3	9'2	25'79	6'7
Monghyr	438	48'4	9'1	1'98	13'4
Saraigarah	54	7'9	7'7	0'23	9'6
Sheikpura ... ..	.....	0'7	.....	.....	.....
Total	21,427	1,871'3	16'3	100'	7'1

142. The number per square mile is 16, which is lower than Saran with 27 or Darbhanga with 23 per square mile, but

Their distribution.

higher than the other two districts of North Bihar.

The small number of objections as compared with Darbhanga is explained by the large area of uncultivated land and the easy nature of the work in thana Gogri, where, as the thanawar figures show, the number per square mile was only 9; the average is brought up by thana Teghra, where there were no less than 33 per square mile; this is a figure which in Darbhanga district was only surpassed by Darbhanga thana, where, as in Teghra, the area is mainly held by petty proprietors in whose estates the greatest confusion about rents and possession was found at attestation.

143. The objections filed require no detailed description, as the points raised were mainly the same as have already been mentioned in dealing with attestation; a detailed classification statement will be found in Appendix E(i), from which the following facts may be gathered:—Seventy-three per cent. of the total number filed were unsuccessful, objections being allowed in only 27 per cent.; the most numerous class of dispute was as to possession, and of these a very considerable proportion were among landlords, a fact which follows naturally from what has already been said about the conditions prevailing in thana Teghra.

144. Thirty-three per cent. of the objections filed related to money rents and these were most numerous in thanas Beguserai and Gogri, where the disputes as to rents in villages specially referred to in the account given of the difficulties of attestation, as well as the cases where illegally enhanced rents had been cut down, went to swell the numbers. It is interesting to note that numerous as this class of objection was, objections were actually filed regarding less than 3 per cent. of the total number of raiyati holdings attested, and considerably less than 1 per cent. of the rentals recorded at attestation were found to require revision. Under this head too are included a large number of disputes in the villages belonging to the Bakhtiarpur Estate in thana Gogri about homestead lands, the tenants claiming in all cases that these were held as part of their rent-paying holding, whereas the landlord asserted they were outside the holding and rent-free.

145. This dispute and the dispute about fixity of rent in the same area, which swelled the number of objections as to status, deserve special mention, as they were the outcome of an elaborate and well organised combination among the tenants of this estate said to have been engineered by one Taj Ali of Mobarakpur. Both claims were originally raised at the attestation stage, but it seems to have been decided that combined action was necessary in order to establish them under section 103A, and Taj Ali is said to have gone round collecting Rs. 2 for each objection filed to meet the expenses of the fight, and at the same time insisting that every tenant should file a claim to hold his homestead on rent and to be a raiyat at fixed rates. Instances were actually found where, though the former claim had been allowed at attestation, an objection making the same claim was filed, and the tenant, on being asked why he had wasted an 8-anna stamp in doing so, replied that he had been ordered to file an objection under threat of various pains and penalties.

The landlord on the other hand contested all cases where the tenant had been recorded at attestation as holding at fixed rates, which were fairly numerous, as well as the few cases where the homestead had been recorded as rent-paying. The latter dispute is a foolish one, which tends, however, to become an almost general one in other districts; the tenant's idea is apparently that, if his homestead is recorded as rent-free it may be assessed to rent separately, or he may be ejected from it; on the other hand the landlord imagines that, if he sells up the raiyati holding, the house will not be included. As a matter of fact there is a practically universal custom in Bihar that the homestead, though attached to the holding, is free of rent, except where the tenant has given up the original homestead in the village *basti* and built a new one on one of his formerly cultivated fields. The tenants here were not able to prove any real variation from this custom, and consequently the result of most of these cases was that the homesteads were recorded as rent-free.

The dispute as to fixity of rents has already been referred to in the account of attestation, and it need only be stated here that in the vast majority of cases the landlord was able to produce evidence at this stage which successfully rebutted the presumption arising from the fact that the rents had been unchanged for 20 years. A somewhat interesting point which might have been raised, but was not, was whether the words "the permanent settlement" in section 50(1) imply the general Permanent Settlement of 1793 or the Permanent Settlement of the particular village, many of the villages in

which these disputes arose not having been permanently settled till as late as 1850.

146. Another matter of considerable interest that came up under section 103A at this stage was the preparation of a detailed map and record of a considerable portion of that part of the Kabur Tal that lies in Manjhaul village. This large lake has already been mentioned in the chapter on Physical Features. The centre of this lake is always very deep, but there is a considerable area around the edges which dries up sufficiently to allow paddy to be sown in it broadcast just before the rains break. This paddy is cut from boats in the cold weather. It may be imagined that this kind of cultivation in a tract of country, practically devoid of boundary marks and under water for about 10 months in the year, was a constant source of quarrel, and in past years riots have constantly occurred at the time of crop-cutting. In our records this *jhil* was originally mapped in two large plots, but at attestation a portion of one of these plots was divided up into 62 *juzwi* numbers, showing the extent of area cultivated by the different tenants (but not the exact position on the map) according to khanapuri rule 60. The rest of the *jhil* was attested as *shamilat* of several tauzis. Under section 103A the matter was brought up again by the maliks of two tauzis, headed by Rai Kashi Prasad, who thought that they had not been given their proper share of the *jhil*. Pandit Rama Ballabh Misra, who enquired into the objections, made a suggestion, which was adopted, that an attempt should be made to prepare an accurate map of the cultivated portion of the *jhil*, showing the area cultivated by each raiyat, not merely by *juzwi* numbers, but by actual mapping on the ground. This suggestion was made in January 1903, but the work had to be postponed until the following May, when it was commenced by Pandit Rama Ballabh Misra, and completed just before the rains broke by Babu Rama Pado Chatterji. It is satisfactory to note that during the ensuing cold season there were practically no disputes in this area during the paddy-cutting, and it is not unreasonable to infer that this was the result of the work done by us.

None of the other section 103A objections deserve separate mention. All the important disputes had already come up at attestation, and have been described under that head.

OFFICE WORK.

147. The various stages of the work of preparing a record for final publication, after it has passed through the preliminary stages of khanapuri and attestation, and all objections filed under section 103A have been disposed of, have perhaps been sufficiently described in previous settlement reports. Some idea, however, of the extent and importance of the work done in the head-quarters' office of a large settlement, and the heavy burden of responsibility which rests on the shoulders of the Gazetted officer placed in special charge thereof, may be gathered from the following note drawn up by Pandit Rama Ballabh Misra, who filled this onerous post from the time the office was moved to Monghyr, and had before that been for several years in charge of the Head office of the Champaran operations at Motihari.

148. He writes as follows :—

"The work that has to be got through in the office at head-quarters is large, varied and important, though perhaps not so ostentatious. Its chief features can best be judged by mentioning the several departments into which the office is divided. They are—

Pandit Rama Ballabh Misra's description.

1. Record-room.
2. Head Peshkar's office.
3. Serishtadar's office.
- 3(a). Computation Department.
4. Accounts Department.
5. Copying Department.
6. English office.
7. Process service—Nazarat.

"It must be borne in mind that all these departments have only one main end in view—the preparation of the record-of rights,—and consequently a brief note of the progress of a record through its several stages of completion will give an idea of what is done there. As soon as a record comes

The record proper.

from the Survey office after *khanapuri*, it is received in the record-room, whence it makes its first exit into an attestation camp. It returns after draft publication to the record-room to be sent out into camp again for disposal of objections under section 103A. It comes back finally to head-quarters and passes on to the Sheristadar's office where it is subjected to a series of checks and counter-checks to ensure elimination of all possible errors, and where the fair copy is prepared. The initial stage of check is called *janch*, during which it has to be seen that all orders passed at *khanapuri* and attestation, on boundary disputes, and under section 103A, have been duly carried out. It is followed by the copying of the record called *sa'ai*, the object being to prepare three copies, one for the landlord, another for the raiyat and the third and most important for the Collector as the final record-of-rights. Then comes a careful comparison of the copy called *moaina*, in which all the check prescribed at *janch* is practically repeated and finally a re-comparison of selected records called *balu moaina* meant to be a check on comparison. After this is done, the fair copy goes out to be finally published locally, and eventually the whole thing finds its way into the record-room, when the original is destroyed and the fair copy made over to the Collectorate record-room, the other two copies being distributed to landlords and raiyats in the recovery camp. I may add here that, after final publication, another big business has to be undertaken and completed, viz., the preparation of bills of settlement costs for each raiyat and landlord technically known as computation.

"So far we have been following only that part of the record which consists of khewat

Case records.

and khatian. But it begins to be encumbered with cases under sections 103A, 105 and 106 of the Bengal Tenancy Act, after draft and final publication, respectively. These cases are stored in the Head Peshkar's office, and it is his duty to send them out duly to case officers for disposal, receive them back after disposal, check and arrange them, note the decisions passed after final publication in the records of-rights, keep notes of all appeals and finally make over the case records to the record-room to be deposited eventually in the Collectorate with the record-of-rights proper.

Nazarat and Copying Department.

"The case work, as also the elimination of mistakes discovered in the record, necessitates the issue of a large number of processes which are dealt with in the Nazarat, and the demand for copies of records by private parties, which is always very heavy, is the justification for the Copying Department.

Accounts.

"The Accounts Department has to control the finances of the large establishments both in camp and at head-quarters, and also the work done in connection with recovery of costs by certificate at head-quarters.

English office.

"The English office is the medium, I need not say, of carrying on correspondence with the outside world and with our own establishment in the field.

"This vast and complicated machinery has slowly and steadily come into being. In Saran, Champaran and Muzaffarpur it passed its experimental stage, and was fully developed at Darbhanga; and in Monghyr, so to say, all its component parts, in their almost final shape, were for the first time put to the test and their usefulness vindicated.

"The difficulties of the work were certainly smoothed here by the experience we had gained elsewhere, but there were some born of the local environments that had to be specially grappled with. Elsewhere we had to deal with compact blocks of whole districts where the work could run a continuous and uninterrupted course; but here we had to deal with only a part of a district and even that part already affected in part by previous operations under the Bengal Tenancy Act, viz., in the course of the survey of the Narhan and Banaili estates.

Notifications.

"The very first step in the whole proceedings, the preparation of notifications which is the duty of the Head Peshkar, was attended with difficulties to which reference has been made elsewhere. The check of boundary dispute decisions and compilation of area statistics which are done in the Sheristadar's office in the course of check bristled with complications of their own. The check of numbers in the thana *mymili* which is the corner-stone of all arrangements of the records was rendered peculiarly tedious and troublesome.

Complicated khewats.

"The proprietors in the two thanas of Begusarai subdivision are extremely numerous, and the *pattidari* is most extensive. The consequence was that the khewat on which the internal arrangement of the record-of-right turns was extremely complicated, sometimes being more bulky than a khasra. Indeed, the wages fixed for the copying of khewat goes by a certain rate per khewat number, and the number of names to be copied under each khewat entry here was so large that the ordinary rate had to be enhanced to ensure the copyists earning the normal amount per month.

Government estate.

"What added still more to the troubles and responsibilities of the office was the Government estates, not only in the area coming under the general survey, but also those scattered bits lying south of the Ganges. The collection of information from the local Collectorate about their identification with a view to correct notification and the unearthing of old papers to ascertain many facts in their past history, caused a severe strain on the resources of the office. The records in the Collectorate all go by estates, and not like survey records by revenue survey villages.

and the state of the local record-room was from the very beginning found to be anything but orderly. So it required a vast amount of patience and caution to get at a particular fact or document there.

"The whole of this machinery, has to be managed by an officer whose designation is that of Assistant Settlement Officer at head-quarters, and who is responsible to the Assistant Settlement Officer in charge for its smooth working. He has to control a large establishment, which ran up here at one time to 550; any section of which, if it went wrong, was calculated to shake the whole edifice. He is expected to know everything that passes in his office, and to give a push to every wheel that looks like slackening its pace, as a certain fixed amount of work must be gone through during recess and before the cold weather sets in."

149. To this Mr. Monahan adds, "Indeed the recess is the busiest time for this officer, and in the cold weather he generally finds time to turn out a lot of case-work, especially under section 106. He has to attend to so many little things throughout the day, putting up notes, reports and letters to the higher authorities, disposing of a stream of papers reaching him from the office, that his lot can hardly be envied; and when the operations draw to a close the task of supervising the vast materials for the final report fall on his shoulder. In this district, Pandit Rama Ballabh Misra was in charge of the head-quarters office from the end of the first attestation season until the close of the work. He deserves great praise for the successful way in which he performed his extremely arduous duties, and in spite of the many difficulties described above brought every thing to a successful conclusion. He was well backed up in his work by Babu Suresh Chandra Deb, who was in charge of the head-quarters office up till the end of the first attestation season and afterwards assisted in collecting material for the final report."

"Among the *amlas*, the one who occupied the most difficult post was Gorakh Prasad, the Head Peshkar. He did extremely good work, and was especially useful in collecting information on various subjects from the Collectorate. Throughout his work, he displayed an amount of energy and ability not often met with in men of his class."

150. One of the offshoots of the work to which the above paragraph contains no reference is the comparison of the *khewats* with the Collector's registers. This in Monghyr was not only a work of considerable importance, as the state of the Collector's registers was notoriously bad, but was attended by special difficulties which practically prevented any progress being made until after settlement operations were completed.

The procedure for *khewat* comparison laid down in rule 13, Part II, Chapter 8, page 50, Survey and Settlement Manual, seems to imply that reports about differences between actual possession and entries in Collectorate registers should be sent to the Collector during *khanapuri*. However, in practice it has usually been found impossible to send these reports until after draft publication, when the records are under check in head-quarters.

151. The work was started in Monghyr in June 1902, when Mr. Gourlay, in consultation with the Collector, Mr. Jeffries, prepared a scheme for the completion of the work. It was arranged to proceed under section 28 of the Land Registration Act, as the procedure under this section is quicker, and more suited for the correction of numerous entries than the procedure under section 65. Subsequently (in September), however, the Collector ordered that in cases of changes due to inheritance or transfers section 65 should be employed, and in cases of other differences the procedure should be under section 28. Shortly afterwards, when the Commissioner of Bhagalpur inspected the Collectorate, he objected entirely to the procedure under section 28, and ordered action to be taken under section 65 against those *maliks* not recorded in the Collectorate registers whose names were found in the settlement *khewats*. He also expressed some doubt as to the correctness of the *khewats*, and was apparently inclined to think that it was the *khewats* rather than Register D, the re-writing of which had not very long before been completed, which required revision.

The Collector's staff was limited, and the labour involved in taking action under section 65 where, as actually proved to be the case, nearly 60 per cent.

of the entries in Register D differed from those in the khewats was enormous. The result was that work languished for some time, and though an arrangement was made in February 1903 that 10 khewats were to be sent for comparison every week, and this was actually done until the office closed at Monghyr, it would have taken three years to compare all the khewats at this rate of progress. There was a further difficulty, namely, that action was only being taken against proprietors shown in the khewats whose names did not appear in Register D, and no action was being taken at this stage in respect of the very numerous class of cases where, though the names in the khewat and the Register were the same, the shares recorded were different.

152. The whole question was taken up in earnest by Mr. Oldham, Collector of Monghyr, after our operations were completed, and an elaborate system of check involving the employment of a large special staff was devised, and presumably the work of comparison has by this time been finished. I may be permitted to add that the experience gained in Monghyr was utilised in North Bhagalpur, where I was able to arrange a scheme of comparison under which it was possible to complete the check of practically all khewats with Register D prior to final publication. The subsequent work in the Collector's office was however hampered as in Monghyr by the decision to take action under section 65, rather than under section 28; but so far as the khewats were concerned, it was possible to eliminate a fair number of errors which, but for a comparison with the Collectorate registers, would have passed unnoticed.

153. There is something to be said for the view that an infinite amount of trouble would be saved by taking action under section 22 of the Land Registration Act, and rewriting the register in accordance with the khewats, but even if this somewhat drastic step is not taken, I can see no reason why the cumbrous procedure under section 65 should be adopted rather than the much more effective and expeditious procedure provided by section 28 of the Act. Apart from its cumbrousness, section 65 procedure has the inherent defect, namely, that there is a tendency to overlook the fact that what is required is the correction of the registers, and not merely the punishment of proprietors who have failed to apply for mutation of their names or shares. One of the greatest difficulties is the constant difference that is ascertained between the *hissadari* of separate accounts as entered in the Collectorate registers, and the actual arrangements made among proprietors by mutual consent; and, so far as my experience goes, it is practically impossible in nine cases out of ten to ensure the correction of the registers in respect of such cases by action under section 65. Another source of constant trouble is found in the private arrangements for the distribution of shares where a single estate is included in a number of villages; to call on proprietors in such cases to apply for mutations of names, or to file a correct *hissadari*, is to invite disputes on points which have probably been settled already by the Assistant Settlement Officers, and to attempt to do in the Collectorate, where the attendance of all the persons interested can with difficulty be obtained, what has already been done in the attestation camp.

FINAL PUBLICATION.

154. The following statement shows the annual progress in final publication :—

Season.			Number of villages attested.	Number of villages finally published.
1901-02	...	...	1,176	331
1902-03	...	...	364	1,008
1903-04	...	...	3	204
Total			1,543	1,543

The work was carried out by kanungos in the villages, and excited very little interest on the part of either landlords or tenants.

155. The question whether as a legal formality its place could not be more usefully taken by a formal notice requiring suits under section 106, and applications for settlement of rents under section 105, to be filed by certain specific dates, is one that merits consideration. It has been suggested that the actual publication of the record, that is to say, the formal reading out of the entries contained in it, should be done in the recovery camp, to which all parties interested flock to receive their copies of the portions which directly concern them and to pay their share of the costs. Apart from other advantages of such a system, it would obviate the necessity of entrusting valuable records (it is the Collectorate copies that have, as the law stands, to be sent out for publication) to a more or less irresponsible set of officers in whose hands they are likely to, and often do, receive considerable damage, exposed as they constantly are to the vicissitudes of the seasons.

This fact leads one to suggest the abolition of the present system, and the substitution in its stead of a system of final publication combined with recovery of costs. A staff of kanungos (as many as may be necessary) might be deputed to each recovery camp, where they would work under the direct control of the recovery officer and would finally publish the records in the presence of the assembled maliks and raiyats in the camp. The publication would precede recovery in the same way as bujharat precedes attestation. There ought to be no more difficulty in getting the maliks and raiyats to attend for this final publication than is at present experienced in getting them to attend for the payment of costs.

The objection that anything that delayed recovery, as for example scarcity or famine, would disorganise the work by delaying final publication, could be met by providing for the employment of the existing method, as an alternative of wherever or whenever circumstances made it more suitable.

SETTLEMENT OF FAIR RENTS.

156. In Appendix E (ii) and (iii) will be found statements showing the extent of the work done under this head. In the following table the most interesting of these figures, illustrating the effects and results in each thana, are extracted:—

Percentage statement of cases under section 105.

name of thana.	Number of raiyati holdings in thana (excluding rent-free). (Present survey.)	Number of holdings brought under application.	Number of holdings for which fair rents were settled.	Percentage of col. 4 to col. 3.	Percentage of col. 5 to col. 3.	Total previously existing rental of thana. (Present survey.)	Total previously existing rental of holdings for which fair rents were settled.	Total rental settled for holdings in col. 5.	Total increase.	Percentage of increase to previously existing rental of holdings for which rents were settled (col. 9).
ghra	74,174	2,273	2,003	3.06	2.70	322,084	25,918	36,744	926	3.58
gusrai	114,536	2,325	1,787	1.98	1.55	653,002	27,621	28,004	482	1.75
gri	79,619	1,812	1,538	2.27	1.98	617,876	22,322	24,068	2,140	9.40
Total	268,329	6,310	5,328	2.34	1.96	1,592,962	76,161	79,716	3,554	4.66

157. Experience in other districts shows that it is chiefly the big landlords who take advantage of the opportunity of applying under this section for enhancement of rent, and that petty landlords either do not care or do not take the trouble to do so. In this respect North Monghyr was no exception. Applications for settlement of fair rents were filed in respect of only 23 in every 1,000 holdings attested, and fair rents were actually assessed for barely 20, or less than one-fiftieth of the total number of tenants. The figures differ slightly for the

different thanas; but in no case does the amount of work approximate to that which had to be dealt with in Darbhanga and Saran where big proprietors took every advantage of their position to enhance rents wherever possible.

The exclusion of the areas covered by the Narhan and Srinagar-Banaili operations, two of the biggest estates in North Monghyr, should be borne in mind if any comparison is made of this area as a whole with other districts. The Raja of Banaili, in the few villages which did come within the scope of our operations, did actually file a large number of cases; other proprietors who filed a considerable number were the Dalsingserai and Daulatpur indigo concerns, the Manager of Ratan Court of Ward's Estate and Srimati Rani Jawahir Kuari of Murshidabad. In the Bakhtiarpur estate it was the Manager's intention to take vigorous action under this section, but through carelessness he allowed the period of two months after final publication allowed by the law to elapse without doing so, and the applications could not therefore be entertained.

158. The rent of the holdings for which fair rents were settled was increased by 4.66 per cent. The total rent of all the holdings included in the present operations was increased by only, 2.2 per cent. Seventy-seven per cent. of the enhancement was, under section 52 (a), for increase in area. Half the total increase under this section was obtained in thana Gogri alone, where the large areas still uncultivated provide the tenant with greater opportunities of encroachment than have his neighbours in the congested areas of Teghra and Beguserai have.

In all suits for excess rent for excess area under section 52 (a) before comparing the former jamabandi area with the survey area, an allowance of 2 kathas per bigha is deducted from the survey area, of which 1 katha or 1 per cent. is to make up for the inclusion of "ails" in the survey measurement, and the other katha or 5 per cent. is meant to make up for the greater accuracy of the survey measurement with a chain as opposed to the zamindari measurement with a laggi.

This allowance is of course over and above any allowance that may be necessary to make up for a difference between the present and former standard of measurement.

Twenty-three per cent. of the total enhancement allowed was under section 30 (i.e., increased rate of rent), and it is noticeable that the whole of this enhancement was obtained in thana Gogri.

Apart from the fact that petty proprietors are seldom in a position to prove a prevailing rate, enhancements in thanas Teghra and Beguserai had been frequent, and in many cases so recent, that it was impossible for the landlords to obtain any further increase on account of the rise in price of food-grains. On the other hand, in Gogri, rates were usually low, and had not been tampered with in recent years; it was comparatively easy therefore for landlords to show that there had been a material rise in the price of food-grains since the existing rates were fixed, and, moreover, in the case of areas brought under cultivation in more recent years, settlements had been made at specific rates for different classes of land, and it was possible to prove a prevailing rate.

In the case of 117 holdings only, advantage was taken of the provisions of section 105 (2) to assess rent on previously unassessed holdings. The area so assessed was 184 acres, the bulk of which was in Gogri thana, and the rent settled averaged about Rs. 3.4 per acre, varying from Rs. 0.8 for small areas in thana Beguserai to about Rs. 3 in Gogri.

In only a few cases did tenants take advantage of the opportunity of getting their rents reduced under section 52 (b), the total number of successful applications of this kind being only 56.

As compared with other districts, the comparatively large number of cases contested is noticeable, the reason for this again being that the majority of the cases were filed by comparatively small landlords or, where filed by

bigger men, in small batches, and the advantages to both parties of a general compromise were not so obvious as was the case in areas where proprietors, such as the Maharajas of Hathwa and Darbhanga, filed large numbers of cases in almost every one of their villages.

159. The large proportion of contested cases rendered the work tedious,

Nature of the cases.

but no special difficulties arose; one of the indigo factories (Dalsingserai) objected at first to the allowance of 10 per cent. in the case of excess areas, in view of the fact that the jamabandi areas in their villages were based on an accurate measurement. The cases were, however, eventually decided on compromise in which a reasonable allowance for difference in system and accuracy of measurement was conceded by the factory. The work as a whole was, comparatively speaking, of little importance.

160. Appeals were filed in respect of only 35 cases out of the 478 decided.

Appeals.

At the time of writing, 28 of these have been finally disposed of, and 7, in regard to which a further enquiry was ordered by the Special Judge, are still pending his orders thereon. In 23 cases the original orders were upheld, in 1 modified, and in only 1 case was the finding of the Lower Court reversed on compromise.

In several of the remanded cases the Special Judge held that the evidence recorded was insufficient to establish the fact that the difference between the recorded areas and those shown in the landlords' papers represented real excess area, and directed that further evidence on this point be recorded. In another remanded case the Judge directed that a somewhat elaborate enquiry should be held in order to settle the question whether there was or was not a prevailing rate, the case officer having decided that there was not on the evidence produced, but having refused to make the local enquiry asked for by the landlord.

Generally speaking, it may be said that few points of special interest were raised or decided in any of the appellate judgments, and that the Special Judge supported the view that careful scrutiny of compromises was essential, and that positive proof that nominal excess areas were really such should be insisted on.

COMMUTATION OF RENTS.

161. Three hundred and twenty-five applications for commutation of rent under section 40 were filed. Two hundred and eight of these were in Teghra and 110 in Beguserai, and only 7 in Gogri. In 174 cases the applications were allowed and in 151 cases were disallowed. In the cases allowed, rent amounting to Rs. 2,386 was settled for 888 acres, giving an average rate of Rs. 2.11 per acre. In Rani village in thana Teghra, reference to which was made in a previous paragraph, 62 of the raiyats paying mankhap rent applied for commutation. The rent was commuted in 18 cases, with the result that Rs. 286 was fixed for 25 acres, giving an average rate of Rs. 11.7 per acre,—a very high rate as compared with the average rates obtaining for land in this area, but infinitely preferable from the tenant's point of view to the exactions to which under the terms of the "mankhap" kabuliyat he was liable.

DISPUTES UNDER SECTION 106.

162. The following table shows the number of disputes filed in each of the three thanas in North Monghyr:—

Thana.		Number of cases.	Percentage to the number of holdings.
Teghra	...	210	0.23
Beguserai	...	441	0.32
Gogri	...	551	0.64
Total	...	1,202	0.38

The amount of work under this head is noticeably small as compared with other North Bihar districts, and it is only in thana Gogri that the number of cases is proportionately approximate to those filed in Darbhanga and Muzaffarpur.

163. The small number of cases in the two western thanas is a fact that attracted considerable attention at the time and was the subject of a special report. As we have seen in dealing with previous stages of the work, disputes were numerous in this area, and the people notoriously litigious, and the reason for the small number of section 106 cases was not, unfortunately, that these disputes had been satisfactorily settled during the early stages, or that the parties accepted the record prepared as final. The real reason for these figures was that the landlords preferred to take their disputes, including their claims to illegal rents, to the Civil Courts rather than to the settlement staff which had already found against them during *khanapuri*, attestation and under section 103A. In July 1903 Mr. W. H. Vincent, the Special Judge, pointed out to Mr. Monahan that in the course of a recent inspection of the Baguserai Munsifs' Courts he had discovered that a large number of civil suits, involving alterations in the settlement records, had been decided either *ex-parte*, or on compromise by these Munsifs. A special enquiry was then made into this matter by Mr. Monahan, the results of which are summarised in a report which is printed as Appendix H of the present report.

164. Without touching on controversial matters, it will, I think, be admitted that the landlords of this area were fully justified in assuming that they had more chance of contesting successfully the entries in the settlement record in the ordinary Civil Courts. I would add to the reasons given in the report for this preference the fact that the ordinary native is naturally prone to delay, and that in any area a considerable percentage of cases must be left for the Civil Courts so long as the period for filing suits under section 106 is so much shorter than that for filing regular suits in the Civil Courts about the same matters. As the figures quoted above show, this tendency was not so marked in Gogri thana where for one thing there is no local Civil Court nearer than Monghyr and where the population is neither so litigious by nature nor have the landlords to any great extent abused the provisions of the Tenancy Act. As a matter of fact, however, the comparatively large percentage of section 106 cases in Gogri is apparent rather than real, for of the 551 cases in the thana, no less than 328 were filed in two villages alone for special reasons to which further reference will be made below. If we deduct these cases from the total thana figures, there are left only 123 cases for the whole of the remainder of the thana. This works out to a percentage of only 0.15 to the number of holdings attested, which is what might be expected from the comparatively easy nature of the work.

In Appendix E (vi) full details of the nature of the cases filed in the different thanas will be found. As might be expected, money-rent disputes bulked largely, accounting for nearly 63 per cent. of the total, while cases affecting possession accounted for all but some 11 per cent. of the remainder.

165. Of the rent suits, 753 in number, 469 were successful—a very high proportion as compared with other districts. One hundred and seventy-eight of these were in one village of Gogri thana (Rampur Atauli) where the rents claimed by the landlord had been disallowed by the attestation officer as involving an enhancement which was neither agreed to by the tenants nor had been realised for three years. The landlord was, however, subsequently able to induce the tenants to accept the enhanced rents, and when he came up under section 106, the case officer accepted the compromises filed as the enhancement was not an illegal one.

166. In Salauna 87 cases were decided in favour of the Mahanth, Lachhmi Das, on the ground that in the period that had elapsed since attestation he had successfully sued these tenants for arrears and got decrees affirming rents as claimed by him, which had been disallowed by the attestation officer as illegal for reasons that

have already been described. It is doubtful to me whether the case officer's finding in this case was correct, in view of the fact that the rents decreed admittedly included illegal enhancements, but it was difficult perhaps for him to do otherwise, as there had been a definite finding in the Civil Court as to the rate of rent, and this was therefore *res judicata*. The result is that one of the most oppressive landlords in this area has obtained legal sanction for illegally enhanced rents, and the only consolation is that the tenants of this particular village are almost, if not quite, as unscrupulous as their landlord, and will no doubt, when the opportunity occurs or the whim seizes them, pay their landlord back in his own coin.

167. Of unsuccessful cases of this kind the most typical were those of Saidpur Balha, where the Maharaja of Sonbarsa filed no less than 150 suits claiming rent at higher rates than those attested. This case has already been referred to in the account given of the difficulties of attestation, but some account of the sect on 106 cases as the sequel of the attestation disputes may be of interest. The Maharaja had, as has been stated, admittedly enhanced the rents of these tenants on three separate occasions within the preceding fifteen years, and the attestation officer had disallowed the two latter enhancements in all cases, and in some even the first, as it exceeded the legal limit. When the case first came on before Pandit Rama Ballabh Misra, who was specially selected to try it, 140 of the defendants contested the claim; while of the remaining 10, 4 did not appear and 6 admitted the claim in full. Afterwards all the contesting defendants, except 8, filed petitions of compromise admitting the Maharaja's claim. Some days later all the petitions of compromise (except two) were withdrawn by the defendants, on the ground that they had been obtained by fraud. Pandit Rama Ballabh Misra came to the conclusion that though there was no reason to believe that the defendants were unaware of the contents of the compromise originally filed, still, inasmuch as section 375, Civil Procedure Code, says that a "lawful" compromise must be accepted, it was necessary to go into the merits of the case in order to decide whether the rent contained in the compromise was a legal rent, and, if so, whether the compromise was lawful. He further held that this was necessary with regard to all the admissions filed (whether subsequently withdrawn or not), for these compromises involved the alteration of the rents entered in a finally-published record-of-rights, which, under section 103 (b), Bengal Tenancy Act, "shall be presumed to be correct until the contrary is proved," and therefore there was a presumption that these compromises contained unlawful terms, and this presumption must be rebutted by the party benefited by the compromise, *i.e.*, by the plaintiff. I have already referred to the number and nature of the kabuliyats in this village (*vide* attestation paragraph 126); before the case officer the Maharaja's contention was that the 1298 F. S. kabuliyats did not involve any enhancement of the rate of rent, but only assessment of rent on excess area found by measurement, and that the 1305 F. S. enhancements, being the first since the passing of the Bengal Tenancy Act, should be allowed. The Maharaja did not produce any papers previous to 1298; they were said to have been removed by a former patwari. From what I had subsequently seen of the careful way in which the Maharaja looks after his zamindari papers himself, this is a statement the accuracy of which I venture to doubt. In order, however, to show that the 1298 kabuliyats involved no enhancement of rate, a patwari was examined, but this very patwari had admitted to the attestation officer that these kabuliyats contained an enhancement, and this admission was recorded in writing. Moreover, in a petition previously filed by the Maharaja of Sonbarsa before the Assistant Settlement Officer in charge and forwarded by him to the Director of Land Records, the Maharaja admitted that the 1298 kabuliyats involved enhancements of rate. Thus the obvious conclusion was that the 1298 kabuliyats involved an enhancement, and so the second enhancement in 1305 was illegal. It was urged on behalf of the Maharaja that three years' payments (which had been proved) would render the 1305 enhancement legal. I need hardly say that this plea was disallowed, for proviso (1) of section 29, Bengal Tenancy Act, only qualifies clause (a) of that section and allows three years' payment to do away with the necessity of a written and registered contract, but does not affect in any way clauses (b) and (c), which say that an enhancement must not be more than two

annas in the rupee or more frequent than once in fifteen years. However, another and more difficult point was raised by the plaintiff. It seems that while the section 106 cases were proceeding, the Maharaja brought suits for arrears of rent against these same tenants at the rates of the 1305 kabuliyats. These tenants filed sultanamas before the Munsif admitting the rents claimed, and the cases were decreed accordingly. The plaintiff urged that these decrees made the question of the rents payable *res judicata*, and that therefore the section 106 cases should be decided in accordance with the Civil Court decrees. However, those decrees were for arrears of rent, and the judgment in these suits merely said "the suit is decreed in accordance with the sultanama filed," and, moreover, as the plaint did not contain a distinct request that rents should be declared at a certain rate, the Assistant Settlement Officer ruled that such decrees for arrears of rent in non-contested suits did not operate as *res judicata*, when the question in dispute was,—what are the rents payable. Finally, the Assistant Settlement Officer dismissed all these suits and left the attested rents unaltered. An appeal was filed against this order to the Special Judge, who however upheld the finding of the Assistant Settlement Officer on all points. The result of a second appeal to the High Court is not yet known. The result of this case may well be contrasted with that already referred to of the Salana cases, and those detailed in the special report dealing with various cases which came before the Munsifs of Teghra and Beguserai.

168. Apart from the large question whether the policy of the Settlement Department in cutting down all illegal enhancements which came to their notice is sound or equitable, as to which opinions may differ, I think there can be no doubt that there is something wrong when it is possible for two Courts of concurrent jurisdiction to come to entirely opposite findings on the same set of facts, owing mainly to difference in procedure. I refer to the different attitude assumed by an Assistant Settlement Officer and a Munsif in dealing with compromises, the result of giving effect to which is an alteration of an entry in a record-of-rights prepared at great expense and after a careful consideration of all the facts. To this subject I shall have to revert when discussing the results of appeals, when the further question of the admissibility of decrees, *ex-parte* and on admission, where an entry in the record is concerned, will be referred to.

169. Another similar batch of cases in which the prayer to record illegally-enhanced rents was disallowed related to village Bhagatpur, where 70 tenants were sued under section 106, of whom 66 contested the claim. In these cases it was urged that the rents had been collected for three years, and, further, that the object of the enhancement was to put a stop to disputes. As to the latter point there was no evidence, and Babu Nilmoni Dey dismissed the suits on the ground that the enhancement was illegal as being within fifteen years of a previous enhancement. This decision was upheld by the Special Judge on appeal even in the case of the six absentee tenants in respect of whom the landlord claimed to be entitled to an *ex-parte* decree.

170. Of possession suits rather more were unsuccessful than successful; the majority of them were comparatively simple, but as an instance of an extremely complicated case involving points of special interest, the following may be quoted.

171. "One very interesting case occurred in village Shamsipur in Teghra. In the khewat the lands of Shamsipur were recorded as being joint lands of three tauzis (Nos. 1187, 3784 and 4430) indistinguishable on the ground. The plaintiff's (Banaili Raj) name was not in the khewat. He applied to be recorded as a part proprietor of tauzi No. 1187, and further applied to have it declared that the land of the village belonged exclusively to Nos. 1187 and 3784, and that tauzi No. 4430 did not exist in the village. The first part of this prayer was admitted, but the prayer for the exclusion of tauzi No. 4430 was disputed. It seems that the two estates (tauzis Nos. 1187 and 3784) were created out of one estate by partition long ago, tauzi No. 1187 representing $13\frac{1}{2}$ annas and tauzi No. 3784 $2\frac{1}{2}$ annas of the original estate. After partition both the new estates diluviated. When they reformed there was naturally no trace of the former

partition, and so the proprietors of both the estates agreed to exercise joint ownership over the lands according to their respective shares. In 1865-66, during the Gangetic diara survey, it was found that the village Shamsipur contained an accretion to the two estates Nos. 1187 and 3784. This accretion was given a separate tauzi (No. 4430) in 1868, a map was prepared and the maliks of tauzis Nos. 1187 and 3784 were given permanent settlement of it. Six years later, one Manik Chand purchased tauzi No. 1187 in a sale for arrears of revenue. In order to get possession, he had to sue Government who had taken possession of this estate as a portion of diara Pandarak. He got his decree, but in the execution proceedings, one Rhaku Chaudhury, proprietor of tauzi No. 4430, applied to have the land of this estate excluded from the execution; this objection was disallowed and Manik Chand got possession of $13\frac{1}{2}$ annas share of the entire village Shamsipur. After that Rhaku Chaudhury and the other proprietors of tauzi No. 4430 brought a suit against the malik of tauzis Nos. 1187 and 3784 for the recovery of possession of the lands of tauzi No. 4430. The High Court decided against them in 1889 on the ground that as the 1868 map had been lost, it was impossible to say where the lands of tauzi No. 4430 were. The result of this was that the proprietors of tauzi No. 4430 defaulted, and the estate was put up for sale. The purchasers could not find the lands of the estate, and so defaulted in their turn, and the estate once more was put up for sale. This state of things continued for some time. It was eventually purchased in September 1901 (after *khanapuri*) by Lalit Narain Lal, brother of Manik Chand (now deceased) and part proprietor of tauzi No. 1187. This Lalit Narain Lal had all along been strenuously opposing the former purchasers of tauzi No. 4430, and did not allow them to get a footing in the village; now he turned round and purchased this estate himself. The reason of this change of front was that the present plaintiff (Banaili Raj) had purchased, in execution of a decree, Lalit's share in tauzi No. 1187, along with some other property, in August 1900. Lalit filed an objection to set aside the sale, and eventually the matter was compromised and the plaintiff got possession of Lalit's share in tauzi No. 1187, and gave up the other property. The plaintiff got possession of the share of tauzi No. 1187 in July 1902. This is the share that formed the first part of their claim in the case under section 106, and which was admitted by the defendant. Meantime, however, as I have already said, the defendant, Lalit Narain, had himself purchased tauzi No. 4430 in 1901. During *khanapuri*, only two estates (tauzis Nos. 1187 and 3784) were entered in this village. At attestation Lalit Narain (having meantime purchased tauzi No. 4430) applied to have his name recorded as proprietor of tauzi No. 4430, the lands of which he said were *ijmal* with tauzis Nos. 1187 and 3784. This prayer was allowed. This is what gave rise to the section 106 case. Lalit's object of course was to defraud the purchasers of his share of tauzi No. 1187 by excluding from it lands supposed to belong to tauzi No. 4430. At attestation his statement was that the lands of tauzi No. 4430 were mixed up with those of tauzis Nos. 1187 and 3784. However, under section 106 he tried to make out that the lands of tauzi No. 4430 were separate and that he was in possession of them separately. The result of the suit was that the plaintiff won his case, and it was found that no lands of tauzi No. 4430 at present existed in village Shamsipur. I have dealt with this case at some length, as it is typical of the class of difficulties met with in the diara villages of Beguserai subdivision. Lalit Narain Lal was by no means an isolated example of an unscrupulous and cunning litigant."

172. Thirty-four cases were brought by the proprietors of the Srinagar-Banaili to restore the boundaries of certain of their villages which had been affected by decisions under the Survey Act. In twenty of these it was held that the presumption of correctness attaching under section 103B to the entries in the Srinagar-Banaili records had been sufficiently rebutted, and that the other parties were in possession and entitled to remain. On appeal, however, the Special Judge decreed eight of these cases in favour of Srinagar-Banaili, and in several others permission to withdraw and bring a fresh suit was granted. It is obvious that in the majority of cases of this class, whatever the facts of present possession may be, it is a difficult matter to get over the fact that the Banaili title was good only thirteen or fourteen years ago, and to prove that this title has been lost by twelve years' adverse possession.

Cases relating to village boundaries.

The remaining cases were few in number, and possessed but little special interest.

173. Appeals were filed in 180 cases, with the result that the orders of the Assistant Settlement Officer were reversed in 49 cases and modified in 3. In the remaining 128 cases their decrees were confirmed.

174. Out of the 49 cases in which the decisions were reversed, no less than 30 related to trees. In these cases the case officers had disallowed the landlords' claim to a half share in the trees on raiyats' holdings, mainly on the ground that he had failed to rebut the presumption of accuracy attaching to the entry in the record, where the trees in question were recorded as *bakabze*, i.e., in the possession of the raiyat. The special judge held that the entry *bakabze* involved no presumption as to title to the timber of the trees, and that it was for the tenant to prove a custom under which he was entitled to any share in the timber. When, therefore, the landlord claimed only half the timber, this claim must be allowed in the absence of proof of a contrary custom. Incidentally in one case where the right to cut the timber had actually been recorded as belonging to the raiyat, he used a somewhat specious argument that the presumption in favour of an entry in a record was not a very strong one where it was immediately contested under section 106, and here again he insisted that the presumption as to ownership was under the general law in favour of the landlord and that the tenant had not proved the existence of any contrary custom. These rulings were not of very great importance in North Monghyr where the tree question was not acute, and where, in fact, in the majority of the villages the rights of tenants in trees growing on their rent-paying holdings were ordinarily admitted by the landlords. Elsewhere however the question has been one of constant difficulty, and the result of these rulings has been that in districts since taken up the records-of-rights in trees had been made in more specific terms.

175. In 11 cases of village Bhagatpur, distinct from the 70 cases referred to in paragraph 169 above, but in which the only actual difference was that the tenants concerned admitted the rents claimed by the landlord, Babu Nilmoni Dey had refused to accept their admissions, on the ground that the rents admitted were illegal. On appeal the Special Judge, Mr. Vincent, while admitting that the matter was not free from difficulty, was constrained to decree these rents, on the ground that if the raiyat, knowing his position, consents to pay a certain amount of rent and admits that he has been paying it in the past and is willing to pay it in future, it can do no one any good to refuse to record this as the rent payable.

With this may be contrasted the finding in the 70 parallel cases of the same village where 64 tenants had refused to accept a similar enhancement and had failed to put in an appearance and had, presumably, accepted the enhancement. The decrees disallowing the enhancement were upheld in all cases, on the ground that payment for three years did not legalise the illegal enhancement, and in the case of the six absentees, the Judge remarked that the law did not make it incumbent on a court to decide all *ex parte* cases in favour of the plaintiff, and that the latter had no just cause of complaint, because the Assistant Settlement Officer had enquired into *ex parte* cases with more thoroughness than is often done in the Civil Courts. The distinction made by the orders in these two batches of cases between a tenant who appears and admits and the tenant whose admission is only inferred from his absence is perhaps practically sound, but I am not quite clear as to how it can be legally justified.

In yet another case of an isolated tenant where the Special Judge decreed the appeal, and allowed what had been considered to be an illegally-enhanced rent, he took special pains to explain that he did so not because the rent had been paid for three years, and that the tenant admitted it, but because he considered the evidence on which it had been decided as illegal and insufficient, being practically the defendant's own statement uncorroborated.

The other appeals decreed related to boundaries of Srinagar-Banaili villages to which reference has already been made.

176. On the whole the result of appeals may be considered as satisfactory, though the position of the Special Judge in regard to compromises and admissions was not as clearly defined as that taken by Mr. Chapman in Darbhanga.

177. Proceedings under section 108 were taken in four cases only. In two cases the order of the lower Court was upheld, and in two in which action was taken on my own initiative, the lower Court's decision was reversed, the case officer having, through mistake, settled fair rents for a person who was not a tenant, but merely the landlord of the village cultivating a small area of his own land by arrangement with the ticcadar to whom he had leased the whole village.

CHAPTER II.

THE GOVERNMENT ESTATES.

178. I have omitted from the general chapter dealing with the progress and procedure of the present operations any account of the actual settlement of rents in the Government estates, though reference has been made incidentally to some of the features of the earlier stages of the work in these estates along with the general account. In the present chapter, though my primary object will be to set forth the system adopted for the settlement of rents and the results thereof, it will be necessary also to deal briefly with some of the difficult and interesting points raised in the earlier stages of the work and to give some account of the statistical results which, because of the scattered nature of the estates in the south of the district, could not conveniently or profitably be worked into the general chapter dealing with the statistics of the north of the district.

179. On the revenue-roll of the district there were, in 1904, 65 temporarily-settled estates and 46 estates under direct management, or 109 in all. Out of these we are concerned in the present operations with only 79, though I understand that it was originally proposed to deal with all. The omitted estates are those such as Monghyr Fort which are mainly or entirely town estates and a number of very petty mufassal estates consisting of a plot or two of land marking the site of an abandoned police outpost or cattle-pound; besides these, it may be noted that the omissions include the four temporarily-settled "bhaishunda" mahals to which reference has been made in previous paragraphs.

The 79 estates actually dealt with are distributed as follows:—

Thana.	Diara.	Inland.	Total.
Teghra ... ..	...	1	1
Beguserai	7	15	22
Gogri	2	7	9
Total, North Monghyr ...	9	23	32
Monghyr	30	3	33
Sarajgarha	6	6	12
Shaikhpara ... ..	...	2	2
Total, South Monghyr ...	36	11	47
Grand Total ...	45	34	79

Of these 79 estates, one (diara Isri Prasad) practically came into existence during the course of our operations as an accretion to another Government estate

The 32 estates in North Monghyr, which cover an area of 95 square miles, were surveyed, khanapuried and attested in the ordinary course of the district operations, whereas for the 47 estates, covering an area of 57 square miles south of the river, special arrangements had to be made.

Of these 79 estates, 37 are treated as the property of Government, and 42 as the property of private individuals: of the former, 22 are held under direct management, and 15 are farmed; of the temporarily-settled estates, 41 were, at the time of our operations, so settled with the proprietors, and one was settled with a person other than the proprietor.

180. The distinction between "farmed" Government estates and temporarily-settled estates implies that in the former there is no person entitled to settlement or, failing settlement, to "malikana," while in the latter the rights of a particular person or persons to the refusal of the settlement are recognised. This distinction as to "malikana" rights exists in practice between these two classes of estates in North Monghyr, but judging by a perusal of the histories of the different estates, it is a distinction more based on accident than on any real intrinsic difference in the origin or early history of the estates. In some cases of course estates in which a private person had a prior right to temporary settlement have in course of time become Government estates under khas management or farmed, owing to the default at some time or other of the settlement-holder and the purchase of rights by Government in a revenue sale. But apart from this, I find that estates of which the origin was identical were treated, in the first instance, as Government or private estates, in a very arbitrary manner, and even in the case of the not inconsiderable class of estates which are due to reformation *in situ* of diluviated estates, on account of which the original proprietor took remission of revenue, I find that in some cases the original proprietor was recognised, on reformation of the estate, as having a prior right of settlement and in others not. Again, the distinction drawn between alluvial formations in the diara, which are accretions to permanently-settled estates and those which were "izad" or outside any specific estate, is not one which is in every case justified historically. However, the fact remains that at the present time the rights of private persons are recognised in certain estates and not recognised in others, and it is unnecessary now to decide whether the distinction made is in all cases a fair one either to the original proprietors or to Government.

181. Details of the origin of the different estates are given in the separate final reports which have been prepared for each estate, and it is not necessary for me here to do more than group them roughly according to their origin.

The largest class of estates, mainly diara estates, includes those resumed at different dates, but mostly between 1825 and 1840, under Regulation II of 1819. Forty of these are either "izad" mahals, namely, lands not included in the original settlement through mistake, or subsequent accretions or formations by alluvion. As already stated, the distinction between an entirely new formation and an alluvial accretion to an existing permanently-settled estate is one which was not clearly drawn at the time, and which it is therefore impossible to make now.

Besides these, there are 8 estates (5 in Gogri, 1 in Surajgarha and 2 in Shaikhpura) which are definitely described as "wyrana" mahals. Those in the north of the district were portions of tappa Saraunja which was entirely waste at the time of the permanent settlement, and therefore excluded from settlement; those in the south were unsettled waste lands lying within the ambit of parganas settled with the Raja of Kharakpur, and of which, when it was proposed to resume them, he refused settlement.

Another 15 estates were at one time permanently-settled estates in the diaras for which the proprietors took remission of revenue when they were discovered during the revenue survey to have diluviated. On their subsequent reformation they

were taken possession of by Government, and in some cases managed direct and in others leased to farmers or to the original proprietors.

Ten estates came into the hands of Government at different times by purchase at revenue sales; 5 others were formed out of excess or "amanat" lands out of the area purchased by Government from Buniad Singh and others for distribution in the shape of revenue-free grants among the Company's pensioned or invalided sepoys. One estate represents land acquired for the East Indian Railway Company, but no longer required for railway purposes.

For convenience of reference an abstract of the history of each estate, as given in the Estate Final Report, is noted in the remarks column of the list of estates given in Statement I, Appendix K, where also the estates are classified as private and Government, under direct management, farmed and temporarily settled.

182. On the geographical distribution and on the area of the different estates, a few further remarks are perhaps necessary. Taking first the estates in North Monghyr, Teghra contains a single estate with an area of barely half a-square mile, treated now as an inland estate, though in origin it was an alluvial formation; this estate lies at a distance of about four miles from Barauni Junction, and is described as consisting of a vast expanse of "bhit" or uplands.

183. Beguserai contains 7 diara estates covering an area of over 28 square miles, of which the majority lie within fairly easy reach of Beguserai town, and the remainder are just opposite Monghyr town; the 15 inland estates are grouped round Sisauni about 4 miles north of the railway near the Bur Gandak river, and cover, all told, an area of somewhat less than 2 square miles. The largest estates are Arazi Bhawanandpur with an area of over 17 square miles, Jafarnagar nearly 5 square miles in extent, and Mahazi Bhawanandpur and Akbarpur Barari covering about $3\frac{1}{2}$ and 2 square miles, respectively. The inland estates are unimportant, and no special description of those in the diara is necessary.

184. Gogri is shown as containing 7 inland and 2 diara estates; the former cover an area of over 20 square miles; of the latter, Tetrad is only 8 acres in extent, while Binda diara covers an area of 43 square miles. For police purposes the latter estate is divided into two, the Shumali and the Janubi, of which the former is in the jurisdiction of Gogri thana and the latter of Monghyr thana. As, however, it is a single revenue survey village and a single record has been prepared for it, statistics of its area, crops and soil have been shown under the head "Gogri Thana" to which, according to the Boundary Commissioner's list, it belongs. It is actually divided by the present course of the river Ganges, but the old maps show it as lying between two distinct streams at the point where the Ganges, after making a sharp turn south, at Monghyr, begins to turn again to the east on its way past Sultanganj through the Bhagalpur district. Of the inland estates, all, except Parbata, which is not far from Binda diara, are of considerable size; Cherakhera, Agar and Dhanupra lie some 16 miles north of Khagaria Railway Station, not far from where the Tiljuga enters the district; Goas and Morasi are even more inaccessible, lying off any good road some 10 miles north of Mahesh Khunt Station; Arazi Jalkar Mohani is close to Jamalpur Gogri. The six large estates contain mostly low lands suitable for paddy cultivation, while in the small one, Parbata, high lands predominate and the *bhadoi* and *rabi* harvests are the most important.

185. In thana Monghyr the two inland estates, Amanats Sirkar Itahri and Bargarua, cover barely 120 acres between them, and the lands of the former are scattered over no less than seven villages, some of which are near Bariarpur and others near Jamalpur Railway stations. Of the diara estates, Kutlupur, Tarapur and Zamin Digri (or Decree) are the largest, Kutlupur covering 20 square miles, Tarapur about 13, and Zamin Digri, nearly 9 square miles, or 42 square miles in all, out of 48 square miles covered in this thana by 33 Government and temporarily-settled estates. Tarapur adjoins Binda Diara, Zamin Digri is close to Monghyr fort and railway

station, while Kutlupur is some 14 miles west, on the borders of thanas Monghyr and Surajgarha. A large number of petty estates are grouped just opposite or alongside Monghyr town, and the remainder are midway between Monghyr and Kutlupur.

186. The Surajgarha estates cover only just over 8 square miles in all, and Rahatpur, with an area of 3 square miles, and Kherho Paranpur, covering a little over 1 square mile, are the only two of importance. Rahatpur as well as the other five petty diara estates are all fairly close to Surajgarha, while the inland estates are grouped round Lakhiserai and Kiul.

187. The two estates in Shaikhpara lie some 16 miles south of the station of that name; they cover an area of about one-third of a square mile each.

188. A brief reference is necessary here to a point already referred to, namely, the difficulties which attended the framing of special notifications for these Government estates.

Those in Tegra and Beguserai were actually attested and the records ready for final publication before the necessary notification under section 101 (2) (c) and (d), which would legalise settlement of rents under section 104, was published; the delay arose from the protracted discussion as to whether action should be taken under that section or under section 105. For this area as well as for the estates in Gogri, survey operations were legalised by the general notifications under the Survey Act for those thanas, but for the estates in the south of the districts each revenue survey village in which any portion of a Government or temporarily-settled estate was known or supposed to lie, had to be specially notified under the Act, and as may be imagined where a single estate, Amanat Sirkar Itahri, with an area of only 67 acres, included plots of land in no less than seven different villages, the question of notifications was not an easy one. The information obtainable from the Collectorate was in many instances inaccurate, and villages were unnecessarily notified or omitted from the original notifications in consequence, and amending notifications had to be published when the mistakes were discovered.

189. For similar reasons traverse survey was a difficult matter in the southern area, and more than one village was actually traversed under the mistaken idea that it contained a Government estate. In order to avoid such difficulties, and also because the areas were too small to be worth traversing, the cadastral survey of ten petty estates was based merely on a prismatic compass survey of the demarcated boundaries, and a regular traverse survey was dispensed with.

190. Of the difficulties attending cadastral survey and khanapuri, the most important was perhaps in connection with the estate Rahatpur in Surajgarha, where the temporarily-settled estate was inextricably mixed up on the ground with the permanently-settled proprietary estate, Fatehpur Karman, owned by the same proprietors. Attempts were made to effect a separate demarcation of the lands of the two estates, but as they had been held jointly from time immemorial, these were naturally doomed from the first to be unsuccessful, and as in previous settlements, all that could be done was to record the estates as jointly held, and credit to the temporarily-settled estate 12 annas of the rent payable by each tenant.

Similarly, in Parsotimpur the separation of the Government estate bearing tauzi No. 1334 from the private estate No. 3545 was a task of some difficulty: in fact, in the first season demarcation was impossible, as both estates were entirely sand, and it was only in the following year when there was a partial reformation, that the estates could be distinguished on the ground.

191. Tetrabad in thana Gogri was an instance of a lost estate being re-discovered; its approximate whereabouts was known from the old records, but it was only after considerable trouble that the Collector, a few years ago, ascertained that the land corresponding to this estate had been included in and treated as a part of two Srinagar-Banaili villages surveyed in 1887-88. An agreement was then come to by which the proprietors of the latter estate were to give up an area of 7 acres, the extent of area of this estate which was above water in 1853. At the time of

khanapuri a claim was put in to the whole of the 50 acres which the older records showed the estate should contain, but as Government was not in possession, and the agreement between the then Collector and the Banaili Raj was apparently binding, this was disallowed.

Estates Jagir Tilak Singh, Jagir Ibrahim Khan, Amanat Sirkar Bargoria, Shama Athgawn and Amanat Sirkar Itahri were estates which the Survey Department entirely failed to identify, and to Babu Suresh Chandra Deb belongs the credit of tracing them out.

192. Reference has been made in the preceding chapter to the numerous and intricate boundary disputes in Monghyr, and the case of Shamsipur was described in some detail.

Boundary disputes.

The special Estate Final Reports give information as to the more important boundary disputes which cropped up in respect of each estate, but it may be mentioned here that disputes of this class were a constant source of trouble to all officers who had anything to do with any stage of work in the Government estates; new disputes were constantly being raised both by the Collector and his subordinates, after more careful comparison of the maps, and by the private proprietors of villages adjoining, and many of the most important and intricate disputes were not finally disposed of until objections to the rent settled were being considered under section 104E. In the case of temporarily-settled and farmed estates particularly, special care was taken to ensure that no part of the Government property had been absorbed into neighbouring permanently-settled estates of villages. Decision of many of the disputes was rendered difficult by the inaccuracy of the demarcation on the basis of which cadastral survey was done, and in some cases by the inaccuracy of the old settlement maps. In not a small percentage of cases it was the officer who settled rents (Maulvi Ahmed Ali Khan) who pointed out to the khas-mahal officer at that stage that certain lands belonging to the estate had obviously not been measured in it, and had the boundaries revised.

Thus, for example, the settlement-holders of Rahatpur, Jagdispur and Shamsa Athgawan made a great show in the earlier stages of having their mutual boundaries adjusted by the old maps, but it was not till the section 104 stage that Maulvi Ahmed Ali Khan found that they had taken equal pains to absorb into their own permanently-settled estates to the north considerable areas which really belonged to the temporarily-settled estates, and they were not over willing then to have these boundaries readjusted according to the Gangetic survey line of 1865.

Enquiries of this nature naturally took up a good deal of the Assistant Settlement Officer's time, but this was fully justified by the results.

193. The difficulties that arose in the temporarily-settled estate Cherakhara, in thana Gogri, have been described in the general account of attestation given in the previous chapter.

Attestation.

I quote below a few other cases interesting either from the particular kind of difficulty met with or as illustrating the crooked policy of some of the settlement-holders.

In Kherho Parapur (thana Surajgarha) the farmer, Rai Tuka Nath Bahadur of Barhi, was found to be realising rents

In Kherho Parapur.

on the "jaidadi" system, though ordinary cash rents had been the rule prior to his acquiring his leases; his rent papers were inaccurate and unreliable, and consequently attestation of rents was a difficult business; finally, all the attestation officer could do was to work out from receipts and other papers the actual rents paid in the preceding three years, and attest at the average rate deducible therefrom.

In Tarapur the difficulty was in regard to large holdings purchased by the settlement-holders from tenants and recorded in the names of their own near relations; these they

In Tarapur.

were anxious to have recorded as occupancy holdings at low rates of rent, and knowing that they had no chance of success if they appeared in the matter, used every possible endeavour to conceal their connection with the nominal tenants, their benamidars. Their dodges were, however, seen through, and all lands held by the settlement-holders through benamidars were recorded merely as in the cultivating possession of the settlement-holder, the benamidar being ignored.

In Kutlupur the chief difficulty was almost innumerable internal disputes as to possession between tenants, disputes which were partly the outcome of frequent changes in the area due to diluvion and partly to double settlement by the khas mahal staff of the same area with different tenants.

In Zamin Digri, which was a thorn in our side for the best part of two years, the chief disputing parties were the farmer, and some of the bigger tenants, the bone of contention being an area of 200 bighas which had been allotted as the result of a boundary dispute to this estate from the parent village Farda. In itself the dispute was of no great importance, but it led to constant and continuous disputing through every stage of our proceedings, which caused an infinite amount of unnecessary trouble to all concerned and reflected little credit on the farmer and his tenants.

194. During the stage for disposal of objections under section 103A most of the difficulties described above in connection with attestation cropped up again in one form or another, but, in respect of petty disputes, the work under this section was light in South Monghyr, as the figures given in paragraph 141 above will show, and also in the Government estates in North Monghyr. Reference has already been made to the difficult status question in estate Dhanupra, thana Gogri, which was finally decided at this stage, and I need not refer to it further.

195. Settlement of rents under section 104 ordinarily follows directly after draft publication of the record under section 103A, but as already explained, there was a delay in publishing the necessary notification in respect of the Teghra and Begusarai estates; and in consequence the work in that area was not taken up in its proper time. The actual progress of the work was also considerably hampered by other reasons, notably the illness of the officer especially selected to do the work, Maulvi Ahmad Ali Khan, and the delays in completing the record of one or two of the bigger estates after attestation.

Eighteen estates in thanas Monghyr and Shaikhpura were taken up in April 1903 and completed before the rains set in, when further work in diara estates at any rate was obviously impracticable, and the remainder of the southern estates, as well as those in the north of the district, were taken up and completed in the following cold weather.

196. In the paragraphs dealing with settlement of rents in the Estate General principles on which Final Reports, the general principles on which the work was done. work was done are thus described—

“In settling fair rents the main object kept in view was to effect such a readjustment of existing rates as to bring them into conformity with the class and capability of soil of each different plot. Existing rates were enhanced where they could reasonably be enhanced, and reduced where they were obviously unfair. In diara estates the class and capabilities of the soil were the main consideration, and in inland estates the existing rates, but in all cases due weight was allowed to both class of soil and existing rates in determining the new rates.”

197. The procedure followed was modelled on that adopted for similar work in the Patna district, and, so far as principle goes, was a combination of methods (iii) and (iv) described in paragraph 8, Chapter VI, Part III, page 92 of the Survey and Settlement Manual of 1900.

In all cases the first step taken was to prepare a sketch map of the estate on which were blocked out the areas held at different rates of rent; on this again the Assistant Settlement Officer, after a careful local inspection, involving one or more visits to estate, marked out blocks representing lands of the same or similar description and advantages, and capable in his opinion of bearing the same rate. At the same time he formed his opinion of the rates at which each particular block could be fairly assessed, taking into consideration its present class and capabilities. These rates required further consideration with reference to the old or existing rates which were shown for the same blocks or portions thereof

on his map, and large enhancements or reductions had to be accounted for, and in the case of occupancy raiyats justified, under one or other of the sub-sections of section 30 or, in the event of a reduction, under section 38. The effects of his proposals on the rents generally and on the total rent-roll had to be considered, any extraordinary increase or decrease explained by definite facts, as, for instance, diluvion or deterioration by sand, or alluvion and improvement by a deposit of silt, and so on.

198. The results of these enquiries were then embodied in a formal note for orders, in which definite proposals were made as to the rates to be adopted for settlement, and this was sent to the Assistant Settlement Officer in charge and to the Collector for approval or modification. As the extract quoted above shows, in diara estates the Assistant Settlement Officer's main concern was to see that the blocking of the estate corresponded with actual differences in class and capability of soil, and that the rates proposed should be such as could be reasonably considered as fair, irrespective of previously existing rates, for in a diara estate it is obvious that the fact that a particular block was assessed at 3 annas and another at Rs. 2 per acre in 1900 does not in itself afford any ground for presuming that if the former is now worth 8 annas, the latter should be worth Rs. 8. On the other hand, in inland estates the relation between existing rates does in the majority of cases give rise to such a presumption, and moreover none of the sub-sections (a), (b) and (c) of section 30 justify (by implication or otherwise) such considerable changes in rate as are permissible where fluvial action is the cause of the improvement or deterioration of the land. Consequently in inland estates the Assistant Settlement Officer's first business was to ascertain whether a general enhancement on the ground of a rise in food prices was justifiable; where rates existed, the block map was prepared in the same way as for a diara estate, and if enhancement was considered necessary, it had to be justified by an application of the principles described in section 31(a), either with or without an application of section 30 (b). Here again, however, as the main object was to fix a fair rent, namely, that which the tenant could reasonably be expected to afford to pay in an average year, full use was made of the power given by section 38 to reduce rents where obviously unfair, and where it could reasonably be said that permanent deterioration of the soil could alone account for the fact that the land was now overassessed. In diara estates, and such inland estates as possessed rates, assessment of rent for excess areas was done automatically, and where, elsewhere, no general enhancement was proposed, fair rents were assessed at the average rates for any excess lands found in a tenant's possession.

199. The Assistant Settlement Officer's report based on enquiries made in the way described, and giving full details of the proposals and explanations of expected increase or decrease of rents and revenue was, as I have stated, sent to the Collector, who, in the vast majority of cases, accepted the proposals; in a few only, modifications suggested by the Assistant Settlement Officer in charge were accepted by the Collector. The report then went back to the Assistant Settlement Officer, who proceeded to work out two schedules, in one of which the old jamabandi and area of each tenant were compared with the present area and rent at the proposed rates, while the other, which was the settlement rent-roll, showed merely the name, status, area and rent proposed. The tenants were then called together, the principles adopted were explained to them, and to each tenant severally was pointed out the change, if any, in his area since the last settlement, and he was asked whether he would accept the rent proposed or not. When he did not accept, he was asked the reasons, and complaints of overassessment based on specific grounds were carefully enquired into by the Assistant Settlement Officer; in some cases further enquiry showed that particular fields had been wrongly included in a higher-rated block, or even that a whole block had been overassessed. Any important changes in classification or rates were again referred to the Collector for his approval, and it was only after the Collector and the bulk of the tenants (in very many cases all) accepted the rents, that the rent-roll was formally framed and draft published; where the tenant accepted, his signature or thumb-mark was then and there affixed to his corresponding entry in the roll.

200. In the vast majority of cases the tenants accepted the rents proposed, and though as the statement of progress of work under section 104 given in Appendix K(iii) will show, 913 objections under section 104E were filed, a careful classification shows that the actual number out of these which referred to rents was only 512. Altogether rents were settled for 11,758 holdings, so that the percentage of objections to rents settled is barely 4 per cent. Out of these, again, no less than 418 referred to the northern area, where the tenants of Arazi Bhawanandpur objected *en masse* to the alteration of their rents, on the ground that they were entitled to hold at fixed rents—a ground which was quite untenable. South of the river the few objections that were filed came from Binda diara where the fairness of the rate fixed was objected to, but, except in a few isolated cases, further enquiry showed that the complaint was unfounded.

201. Of the other objections filed at this stage, 164 related to area, and involved applications for re-measurement, 69 were ordinary disputes about possession, and 117 of a miscellaneous nature. The large number of area objections is accounted for mainly by a single estate, Kutlupur, where, for reasons already given in paragraph 193, the original khanapuri had been rendered very difficult by double settlements of the same land. For the possession cases, Tarapur heads the list with 45 out of 58, and these were objections put in by the tenants holding on produce rents at the instigation of one of the settlement-holders who wished to get this area recorded as his own occupancy holding; a few of the objections were *bonâ fide*, but in the majority of cases enquiry showed that the "bataidar" was still in possession and had no intention of giving up, if he could help it. Of the miscellaneous objections, Tarapur accounted for 88, all of which were untenable claims to hold at fixed rates.

202. After the disposal of objections the rent-roll, revised in accordance with orders passed thereon, was submitted with the Assistant Settlement Officer's report to me for confirmation of the roll. Except in one or two cases, disagreeing with the orders passed on an objection, I had as a rule no reason to withhold confirmation, but in all cases I examined the rent roll along with the original schedule, and saw that in all cases of considerable increase, the enhancement was made progressive. After confirmation the rent-roll was finally framed and incorporated in the draft record-of-rights, and an interval of two months allowed in which appeals under section 104G against orders passed at previous stages could be filed. Fourteen such appeals were filed, in only two of which however was it found necessary to set aside or alter the original order.

203. From the procedure adopted and the progress made, I turn now to the results of settlement, and it will be convenient first to study briefly the status figures given for the different thanas in the following statement:—

THANA.	Holdings, cultivated and uncultivated in occupation of tenure-holders.	Settled or occupancy raiyats.	DIARA.		Non-occupancy.	Rent-free holders.	Total.	Under-tenants.
			Occupancy.	Non-occupancy.				
Sheikhpura ...	5	58	...	...	...	4	67	1
Surajgarha ...	54	365	...	106	27	...	563	12
Monahyr ...	85	31	1,793	1,364	345	12	3,633	248
Gogri ...	91	1,395	419	1,602	41	2	3,559	538
Teghra ...	1	...	98	21	...	...	120	11
Beguserai ...	67	697	2,267	5	20	5	2,971	159
Total ...	303	2,456	4,579	2,998	433	29	10,793	989
			7,035	3,431				

In all there are 10,798 holdings, excluding 989 of under-tenants; 303 or 2·8 per cent. are occupied by settlement-holders, farmers or other classes of tenure-holders, and only 29 are in the possession of rent-free holders. Seven thousand and thirty-five holdings, or 68 per cent. of the total number, have been recorded as held by tenants with rights of occupancy, and 3,431, or 32 per cent., by tenants who have no such rights; of the former, 4,579, or 74 per cent., have been described as diara occupancy raiyats, that is to say, they have actually acquired such rights in diara lands, through holding for more than twelve years, but the fact that they have done so does not give them, as in the case of a settled raiyat, any immediate right to similar rights in other lands now occupied, or that may be occupied by them in future.

204. It will be noticed that in Beguserai the bulk of the diara raiyats have acquired such rights the explanation being that there diara estates are of fairly stable formation. In Monghyr 60 per cent. of the diara raiyats have acquired occupancy rights; but as the figures of area given in the statement below will show, the area held without such rights is considerable. In Gogri, where the only diara estate of any size is Binda Diara, non-occupancy diara raiyats are nearly four times as numerous as occupancy raiyats, but the area so held is not much more than double that held with occupancy rights. Detailed figures for the actual area held with and without rights of occupancy are given below :—

THANA.	AREA HELD BY TENANTS—						
	With occupancy rights				Without occupancy rights		TOTAL.
	In upland.		In diara.		Area in acres.	Percentage to total area.	Area in acres.
	Area in acres.	Percentage to total area.	Area in acres.	Percentage to total area.			
Sheikhpura ..	339	100·00	...	...	...	...	339
Surajgarha ...	1,104	52·20	...	...	1,008	47·80	2,112
Monghyr ...	113	·67	10,979	55·66	8,636	43·77	19,728
Gogri ...	7,923	53·24	2,188	14·7	4,772	32·06	14,883
Teghra ...	...	...	213	70·0	91	30·00	304
Beguserai ...	1,093	9·20	10,734	90·2	67	·60	11,894
Total ...	10,572	21·50	24,114	48·9	14,574	29·6	49,260

205. The question of the status of some of the big tenants, more especially in the large diara estates of Beguserai and Monghyr, was often a difficult one. Wherever such men were found to have a large number of sub-tenants under them, the superior tenant was recorded as a tenure-holder, but in a number of cases, they contested this entry, and in face of the fact that the Government jamabandis and kabuliyats treated them as ordinary tenants, it was difficult to retain them as tenure-holders. In many cases we found that large blocks of diara lands, consisting at the time mainly of unculturable sand, had been settled with residents of Monghyr or Beguserai, some of them big zamindars, others pleaders or retired Government servants, who obviously never had any intention of bringing these areas under cultivation, but merely proposed to lease them out to others to cultivate. Even in such cases, however, it was not always possible to refuse to give the holder raiyati status in view of the terms of the original settlement, though, whenever possible, this was done, and the actual cultivating tenants were recognised as raiyats with or without rights of occupancy. This is a difficulty which need not recur if proper care is taken in all future settlements, but I may suggest here that the system of leasing lands which are not culturable is entirely unsound in principle, though the immediate result may be a small revenue for otherwise unproductive areas, and all settlements

of diara lands with other than *bond fide* cultivators should be discouraged, both in the interest of the cultivating classes, and in the long run also of Government.

206. The number of holdings occupied by under-tenants, 989, is some indication of the extent to which it was not found possible to treat big tenants as tenure-holders; in

Gogri the percentage to original holdings is particularly high, as it includes the large number of tenants under Mr. Christian in the holding of over 1,500 bighas, in respect of which, for reasons already described, he was recorded as having occupancy rights. An attempt was made to get Mr. Christian to admit that many of these under-riyats had acquired rights of occupancy, but this failed; the fact, however, was recorded that they had held in many cases for many years, and that the holdings were by custom heritable.

207. Fair rents were proposed and settled for 11,78 holdings, namely, 10,769 original holdings (29 rent-free holdings excluded) and 989 under-tenants' holdings. It must

not, however, be assumed from this that in all cases any actual specific amount of rent was fixed for uncultivated holdings in the occupation of landlords and tenure-holders. For such of these, however, as could bear any rate of rent, a nominal rate was fixed, and for the remainder it was noted that they were not assessed, as not at present being assessable.

208. Details of the assessment will be found in Statements V(a), V(b), V(c), V(d), given in Appendix K, from which the following figures showing the difference between the incidence of the existing rent and of the settled rent for the different classes of holdings are shown:—

Incidence of rent.

Thana.	Tenure-holders.		Tenants holding direct.		Tenants holding under tenure-holders.		Under-tenant.	
	Existing.	Settled.	Existing.	Settled.	Existing.	Settled.	Existing.	Settled.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Shaikhpura	8 1 0	2 0 0	1 11 3	4 7 2	...	...	...	8 0 0
Surajgarha	1 8 0	0 8 2	3 11 1	3 11 5	...	...	6 12 10	5 3 7
Monghyr	1 6 9	1 9 8	2 14 1	3 1 9	2 14 4	2 7 6	5 10 6	4 10 6
Gogri	0 8 0	1 8 10	2 4 2	2 4 3	3 4 5	2 12 8	0 8 11	1 10 11
Begusarai	0 14 8	2 0 0	2 1 11	2 14 4	...	...	5 3 1	6 0 9
Teghra ... ..	...	...	3 12 8	5 11 5	...	...	7 15 2	6 2 11
Average for the whole area ...	1 15 2	0 14 2	2 8 4	2 14 1	3 2 5	2 13 9	1 6 8	2 2 4

209. The figures above given for tenure-holders require some explanation, more especially the large decreases in incidence in thanas Shaikhpura and Surajgarha. In the

case of the former thana the area held direct is only 72 acres, and the present assessment is based on rates averaging Rs. 4-2-8 for cultivated and Rs. 0-15-3 for uncultivated lands: the previously existing high rate or rather incidence was apparently due to the fact that lands formerly included in the khas jot of the tenure-holder had been leased out to tenants and what was originally a reasonable rate, worked out at the impossibly high figure of Rs. 8 per acre on the lands actually left in the tenure-holders' possession. In Surajgarha the area held is nearly 2,000 acres, of which only 362 is cultivated. On the latter the incidence of the new assessment is Rs. 1-10-2, while uncultivated land has been assessed at an all round rate of 4 annas, liable of course to increase when the land is actually capable of paying a higher rent.

In Begusarai the area held by tenure-holders is small, barely 120 acres in all: the cultivated portion pays under the new assessment at the rate of Rs. 3-2 per acre and the uncultivated at the rate of Rs. 1-1 as against a previous all-round incidence of Rs. 0-14-8 per acre. In Monghyr the incidence of rent has gone up from Rs. 1-6 to Rs. 1-9-3, the average for 1,327 acres of cultivated land being just under Rs. 3 and for 3,464 acres uncultivated just under Rs. 1. In Gogri the increase is less marked from Rs. 0-8 to Rs. 0-8-10, 1,553 acres of cultivated lands being settled at Rs. 1-8-7 and 6,056 uncultivated at Rs. 0-5-2.

So far as tenants are concerned the above statement brings together rents settled for lands already held on cash rent, lands formerly held on produce rent and lands newly assessed to rent. The detailed figures showing the incidence of the rents settled for these three different classes of land will be found in Statement V (b), Appendix K. Shaikhpura and Teghra are the only two thanas in which the increase in incidence is very marked, and to a less extent Begusarai. In Shaikhpura the increase is from Re. 1-11-3 to Rs. 4-7-2 per bigha, and is mainly accounted for by the fact that these two estates were held by mustajirs who were actually collecting rents at rates higher than those attested, though unable at attestation to satisfy the Assistant Settlement Officer that the rents claimed were legal; the increase was therefore more nominal than real. The high rate of Rs. 4-7-2 per acre is justified, moreover, by the exceptional fertility of the lands of these two small estates. In Teghra the increase from Rs. 3-12-8 to Rs. 5-11-5 is justified by the rates in adjoining villages, where the lands are of the same high quality, producing two valuable crops every year. In the case of old holdings the incidence of the new rent assessed is as a matter of fact only Rs. 5-2-2, the general average being brought up by the high rate Rs. 6-15-3, at which lands previously unassessed were rated after careful consideration of their capabilities.

In Begusarai the increase from Rs. 2-1-11 to Rs. 2-14-4 is mainly due to the more or less permanent improvement of some of the diara estates, the lands of which are not only exceptionally fertile but are practically permanent. Under-tenants in this area pay as much as Rs. 4 per acre, and previously unassessed lands were settled at Rs. 3-2-2.

In Surajgarha the statement above given shows only a nominal increase of 4 pies on the former incidence of Rs. 3-11-1. As a matter of fact, however, as the detailed figures in Statement V (b) will show, the incidence of rent on previously settled lands has actually gone up to Rs. 5, the general incidence being brought down by the considerable area formerly held on produce rents or rent free and now assessed at Rs. 2-1-3 and Re. 1-12-3 respectively. The detailed estate figures show that the increase is almost entirely in a single estate, Khoro Paranpur, where, as has already been stated in connection with the difficulties of attestation, the "jaidadi" system of rents was in force and the Attestation officer had to attest on an average of actual receipts for the three preceding years. These figures did not, however, as the Court proved, represent anything like the real worth of the land.

Monghyr shows an increase of about $3\frac{1}{2}$ annas on the former incidence of Rs. 2-14-1: in the case of old cash rent-paying holdings the actual increase is rather more, i.e. to Rs. 3-2-9. Produce rent lands were assessed at Rs. 2-14 and previously unassessed lands at an average of only Re. 1-5-8, and the area of these being considerable, the general incidence is considerably reduced.

In Gogri the apparent increase is only 1 pie on the former incidence of Rs. 2-4-2 per acre, and the actual only $1\frac{1}{4}$ anna. The large areas held on produce rent and unassessed in this thana were assessed at an average of Re. 1-6-7 and Re. 1-5-8 respectively.

As between the estates in different thanas comparison of the incidence of rent is of little value, in view of the fact that conditions differ so largely. The high rates in Teghra and Shaikhpura represent small areas of exceptionally rich up lands, while Gogri at the other extreme with an average incidence of barely Rs. 2 per acre includes estates of so widely divergent character as the fertile but uncertain diara tracts in Binda and the newly reclaimed half jungle lands in Goas and Morasi. Monghyr is very largely diara, and the incidence of over Rs. 3 may, therefore, appear high, but it has to be borne in mind that the bulk of these estates are close around Monghyr itself, and any lands that will produce a crop even once in three years have here an enhanced value, owing to their proximity to the market.

The figures for tenants holding under tenure-holders call for little comment; it may, however, be noted that in Monghyr, where the area so held is small, the incidence is only Rs. 2-6-9 as compared with the general incidence of Rs. 3-1-9, whereas in Gogri, where a large area is held by tenants of this class, the incidence is Rs. 2-13-10 as compared with Rs. 2-4-3. These figures do not suggest that the Government tenant in Gogri at any rate has been too hardly dealt with.

For under-tenants the rates vary from Rs. 6-2-11 in Teghra for a very small area to Rs. 2-2-2 in Gogri, where nearly 1,600 acres are held by under-tenants. The detailed figures as given in Statement V (d) in Appendix K bring out even more marked differences. In Surajgarha, for example, a small area less than 4 acres previously unassessed was assessed at Rs. 10-2-1, while the average incidence in old holdings in Gogri was only Re. 1-10-7, as against Rs. 3-6-4 assessed on lands previously held on produce rent. Here again the chief value of the figures seems to be as illustrating the large profits made by middlemen, and the moderate spirit in which the Government demand has been fixed.

210. In the following statements the effects on the land revenue demand, assuming that in the case of the temporarily-settled and farmed estates allowance will be made to the settlement-holders and farmers at the same rates as in former settlements, are set forth:—

No. of estates.	Nature of settlement.	Assessed area.	Existing revenue.	Revenue proposed.	Incidence per acre.	
					Old.	New.
			Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
41	Temporarily settled	36,694 873	36,235 0 11	44,461 18 0	1 5 9	1 10 9
11	Farmed	11,035 007	14,571 4 4	19,847 5 0	1 4 8	1 12 7
57	Total	37,089 639	50,806 5 3	64,309 4 0	1 5 5	1 11 5
25	Field khas	24,557 581	53,319 2 6½	64,518 10 0	2 0 1	2 6 9
79	Total	64,246 22	1,03,925 7 9½	1,29,817 14 0	1 9 10	2 0 1

For the existing revenue of the two first classes has been taken the demand as summarily fixed in 1902 when the settlements expired, and which was in most cases put arbitrarily at 25 per cent. in excess of the previous demand.

The total increase in the revenue demand is equivalent to rather less than 24 per cent.; in the khas mahals it is over 21 per cent., in farmed estates over 38 per cent., and in the temporarily-settled estates over 22 per cent. These differences, more or less, correspond to the different periods which have elapsed since the last regular settlements were made. Thus, of the temporarily-settled estate, the majority were settled over 30 years ago and the remainder at least 20 years ago, while of the farmed estates, the leases which expired in 1902 had been running for upwards of 20 years; in the khas-managed estates, many of which were diaras, more recent settlements had been made, and periodical assessments of new lands had taken place from time to time, but even here the changes in area and conditions had been in most cases considerable, and in particular estates, considerable revision of existing rent rates was required, owing to the unsystematic method of previous settlements.

211. For purposes of management, the estates held khas in Monghyr are divided into four circles: Kutlupur, Binda Diara, Beguserai and Sadar. For each circle there is one tahsildar, who makes collection of the revenue; each has under him two patwaris and three peons. The collections over which each tahsildar has charge are approximately Rs. 32,000, Rs. 23,000, Rs. 22,000 and Rs. 21,000 for the above circles, respectively. The tahsildar's pay is from Rs. 20 to Rs. 30. For work at head quarters there are two clerks on Rs. 40 to Rs. 60 and Rs. 20 to Rs. 30, respectively, one peon and one amin. The Khas-mahal Deputy Collector is in charge of the whole establishment.

212. It is difficult to arrive at any very definite conclusion from the facts and figures already given. They suggest, however, that in temporarily-settled estates there has been little tendency on the part of the settlement-holders to enhance rates of rent, and not very much energy displayed by them in improving their property; that this should be the case is perhaps only natural, as the settlement-holder knows he has first claim to settlement and that an increased rent-roll will only mean a higher revenue demand, and few of them, perhaps, consider it worth while to worry themselves or their tenants to gain an additional income of which only 30 per cent. will benefit themselves.

Under the farming system, on the other hand, it is to the farmer's interest to make the most out of his property while it continues to be his property, and it is only natural

The farming system. therefore that in many of these estates, rents were found to have been considerably enhanced, and produce rents substituted for cash rents in the case of a considerable area. If the figures given in paragraph 208 and in the statements in Appendix K are compared, it will be seen that a great part of the increase of rent obtained in such estates was on the land in direct possession of the farmers, and that the enhancement of rate for lands held on cash rent by their tenants was not much more than nominal.

In the khas-managed estates existing rates of rent were, as might be anticipated, not very much less than what have been considered as fair rates, but there was actually much inequity in the previous assessment, and in the case of one or two of the larger estates, *e.g.*, Binda Diara, the system adopted in the past of settling large areas with big tenants had practically the same results as might have been expected had the estate been farmed, instead of managed direct. Many of these settlements were speculative, and probably for a good many years gave the holder but little return, and it is only natural therefore that when the opportunity does occur, the lessee should endeavour to make the most of it, and to let out the lands to the highest bidder. This system is, I think, admittedly an unsound one; it involves the worst features of the farming system without securing any of its advantages, and if not carefully watched, it tends to establish a middleman between Government and the actual cultivator, and reduces the latter to the position of a mere tenant-at-will.

As elsewhere stated, the produce rents payable by under-tenants and tenants holding under tenure holders were all commuted into fair cash rents, but it is doubtful if in many cases the cultivator will benefit much thereby, as, his rights being rarely those of an occupancy raiyat, he must in practice pay his rent in whatever form his landlord prefers, and this will usually be produce.

The avoidance, in future, of settling new lands in large blocks to speculative lessees, and the advisability of substituting direct management for the farming leases—in the case at any rate of the larger estates—are matters which, no doubt, will be considered by the local officers, and are beyond my province.

213. In conclusion, I would impress on those concerned the importance of a proper system of maintenance of the records prepared for both Government and temporarily-settled estates. In the case of the diara estates, the main use of the existing record will necessarily be as a basis for periodical revision of the rates assessed—a revision which should, I think, be annual. Less frequent revision in farmed and temporarily-settled estates will probably suffice, but for purposes of a future settlement of revenue in such estates, it is obvious that they should be kept up to date by some form of periodical revision.

CHAPTER III.

EXPENDITURE AND RECOVERY OF COST.

214. Separate statements showing the expenditure debited to the general operations and to the Government estates will be found in Appendix G. The total expenditure shown for the former is Rs. 5,82,733-15 and for the latter, Rs. 30,361-9-3, but these figures must not be taken as representing the actual cost of each part of the operations, as for the Government estates there was no separate budget allotment until 1902-03, and the whole of the cost of surveying and attesting the estates in Teghra and Beguserai was shown in the

accounts kept for the general operations. Moreover, the distribution of the expenditure in the later years, under the heads "Pay of Officers," "Contingencies," and the like, between private and Government estates, where the same staff were dealing with both, was necessarily somewhat arbitrary. For due calculation, therefore, of the share of the cost chargeable to Government estates, I think that the only proper course is to work out the general average cost of each class of work, and apply these rates to the area actually covered by the Government estates. For this purpose the following statement, showing the total expenditure under each head of the work and the area actually dealt with, has been prepared:—

HEAD.	PRIVATE ESTATES.		GOVERNMENT ESTATES.		TOTAL.		Cost-rate per square mile.	REMARKS
	Expenditure.	Area in square miles.	Expenditure.	Area in square miles.	Expenditure.	Area in square miles.		
	Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.	
1. Traverse survey	50,801 0 0	1,465	18,082 0 0	101	68,883 0 0	1,566	40 18 6	
2. Cadastral survey	1,04,813 0 0	1,386	1,525 0 0	101	1,06,338 0 0	1,487	71 0 6	
3. Khanapuri	46,748 0 0	1,336	720 0 0	101	47,468 0 0	1,437	31 11 3	
4. Record-writing	35,410 0 0	1,396	193 0 0	101	35,603 0 0	1,497	25 12 6	
Total ..	2,37,375 0 0	...	17,500 0 0	...	2,54,875 0 0	1,497	167 6 9	Total of rates.
5. Khanapuri	46,745 15 6	1,336	...	...	46,745 14 6	1,336	33 7 9	
6. Attestation	51,350 11 4	1,380	1,691 11 10	51	52,942 7 2	1,371	38 0 10	
7. Case-work under section 103A.	19,523 9 6	1,270	407 9 0	101	19,930 8 0	1,371	14 8 6	
8. Office work and final publication.	52,407 7 10	1,320	1,791 9 8	51	54,199 1 6	1,371	39 8 6	
9. Cases under sections 105 and 106.	14,518 13 6	1,219	...	...	14,518 13 6	1,219	11 16 8	
9(a). Settlement of rents, section 104.	...	...	8,095 8 9	152	8,095 8 6	152	53 4 2	
10. Supervision	1,04,633 12 7	1,320	829 0 0	51	1,05,462 12 7	1,371	78 0 3	
11. Computation and recovery.	13,935 2 6	1,219	...	...	13,935 2 6	1,219	11 6 9	
12. Contingencies	4,344 7 2	1,320	637 2 0	51	4,981 9 2	1,371	36 14 2	
Total ..	3,45,458 15 0	...	12,832 9 2	...	3,58,290 14 2	1,371	210 11 4	Total of rates.
GRAND TOTAL ...	5,82,733 15 0	...	30,331 9 2	...	6,13,064 14 2	...	478 2 1	Total of rates.

Comparison of Cost Rates.

HEAD.	NORMAL COST-RATE		COST-RATE IN MONGHYR		COST-RATE IN DARRANGA		COST-RATE IN BARAN		COST-RATE IN MURRAYPURI		REMARKS
	Per square mile.	Per acre.	Per square mile.	Per acre.	Per square mile.	Per acre.	Per square mile.	Per acre.	Per square mile.	Per acre.	
	Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.		
Survey Expenditure ...	193 4 9		185 13 4	4 1	236 1 8	5 9	217 7 0	5 5	168 18 0	4 1	
Settlement Expenditure	227 5 8		202 2 2	6 6	284 0 6	6 4	293 9 6	7 1	211 4 8	5 3	
Total ...	420 10 5		447 15 6	10 7	490 2 2	12 1	501 0 5	12 6	374 3 8	9 4	

215. The area covered by Government and temporarily-settled proprietary estates was 152 square miles, and the rate to be applied to this is Rs. 453 per square mile, being the total of the average rates arrived at above, including cost of settlement of fair rents under section 104, but excluding cost of disposal of cases under sections 105 and 106, and of computation and recovery. The amount fairly chargeable to Government estates is therefore Rs. 68,856 and to the general operations, Rs. 5,44,239.

216. The average cost-rate per square mile on the 1,371 square miles, for which a record-of-rights was prepared, was Rs. 447-15-6, of which Rs. 185-13-4 represents the charge for Survey and Rs. 262-2-2 for Settlement. As the statements given above show, the actual total of rates for survey operations was only Rs. 167-6-9, the difference being accounted for by the large excess areas traversed and surveyed. Even the former rate however is less than the normal cost rate, and very much less than the actual cost rates in Darbhanga and Saran, and the explanation is to be found partly in more economical working of the Survey Department and partly in the fact that in more than half the area, *i.e.*, thana Gogri, the average size of the plot was very much larger than in those districts.

217. The total of cost rates for settlement operations was Rs. 310-11-4, or excluding Rs. 53-4-2, the cost rate for the settlement of rents in Government estates 257-7-2, between which and the average rate given in the preceding paragraph the difference is only nominal. This rate exceeds the normal by Rs. 30, and comes about midway between the rates for similar work in Darbhanga and Saran: the differences are explained by the difference in individual items.

218. The items which show most variation from the normal are *khanapuri* and supervision on the excess side, and attestation, case-work under sections 105 and 106 and contingencies on the side of saving. For the heavier average expenditure on supervision of *khanapuri* the peculiar difficulties in the two western thanas and the fact that it was necessary to employ officers of some seniority and experience to deal with them probably accounts sufficiently, as the cost-rate very rapidly rises where fairly senior Deputy Collectors are employed on work that is now-a-days entrusted to newly-appointed Sub-Deputy Collectors and outsiders.

For general supervision the cost-rate works out to over three times the normal, and though I have not been able to trace it, I am inclined to think that there has been some difference in the principles on which the apportionment of costs under this head has been arrived at; it should be stated that under this head are shown the portion of the Settlement Officer's pay and allowances which is debited to this district, the whole of the pay of the Assistant Settlement Officer in charge and a part of the charges in connection with the head-quarters office. The apportionment is not made with any special reference to the area dealt with, and it is perhaps more than probable that Monghyr has been overcharged to the benefit of Darbhanga or North Bhagalpur, and that under "Supervision" has been shown more than its fair share of the cost of the head-quarters establishment. In any case the fact that the area on which these rates are worked out is only 1,371 square miles instead of 1,600, which may be taken as the standard outturn for two seasons' field-work—it has of course since been raised to just double,—would account for some part of the difference from the normal under this head, though not for the whole.

The incidence of cost of case-work depends entirely on the number of cases which are filed in the particular area, and as we have elsewhere seen comparatively few cases of this kind were filed in North Monghyr. As to the saving under the head of "Contingencies" here again the question of apportionment of charges to different heads comes in, and it is more than possible that the saving is only a nominal one.

The figures given in these statements thus only roughly indicate the reasons for the difference in cost-rates in different areas, but I think it may be admitted, the main reason for the excess over the normal in Monghyr is the heavier cost of supervising the work in a comparatively small area and the necessarily heavy cost of *khanapuri* due to the special difficulties which were anticipated and provided against by the employment of a specially selected and strong staff.

219. As we have seen, the total expenditure was Rs. 6,13,095, of which Rs. 5,44,239 is debited to the general operations in private estates; and to arrive at the actual amount debited to landlords and tenants, we have first to

deduct the value of Court-fees and miscellaneous receipts, and then subtract from the balance the Government share of one quarter. Thus we have :—

			Rs.	A.	P.
Total cost debitable to private estates	...	...	5,44,239	0	0
<i>Deduct—</i>					
Court-fees	...	...	32,940	12	0
Process-fees	...	...	2,421	0	9
Miscellaneous receipts	...	...	10,195	11	8
Total	...	...	45,557	8	0
Balance	...	...	4,98,682	0	0
<i>Deduct—</i>					
Government share, one-fourth	...	...	1,24,670	0	0
Balance recoverable from landlords and tenants	...	...	3,74,012	0	0

220. As a matter of fact, however, the amount recovered under the apportionment order was Rs. 3,70,783-14-6, so that there was a deficit of Rs. 3,200; this however is only a nominal deficit, because, as a matter of fact, the cost actually incurred in traversing the petty Government estates in the south of the district was much in excess of the average rate for the whole district, and in calculating the share of costs above, I have, for the sake of convenience, made no allowance for this, the average figure being taken in each case. However, it would be only fair to make some addition, and this would at any rate wipe out this apparent deficit. Again, in the above calculation the cost of preparing records for the considerable area in the private estates, which are in the occupation of Government, the District Board, the Railway Companies, and other public bodies, for which costs were not recovered, has not been taken into account, but it is obviously not an item that can fairly be charged to the landlords and tenants of the area. Allowing therefore for these two items, it is probable that Government has escaped with a little less than its proper share of the cost, and that the landlords and tenants have paid rather more than theirs.

221. The total cost of operations in thanas Teghra and Beguserai, after deducting the sums to be realised on account of Court-fees and miscellaneous receipts, was estimated by Mr. Kerr at $9\frac{3}{4}$ annas per acre, and an apportionment order was accordingly issued apportioning costs at this rate for these thanas; at the same time Mr. Kerr expressed the opinion that the rate for the second year's work in Gogri would work out at rather less than this amount; when however the time came to make the apportionment of costs for this area, it was ascertained that the estimate for the two western thanas was somewhat low, and that on the estimated cost for the whole of north Monghyr, the rate for Gogri would have to be the same.

222. The process of computing the share of landlords and tenants was the same as that adopted in other districts, and the work presented no special features, though of course in the pattidari area in Teghra and Beguserai it was somewhat tedious.

223. Recovery was spread over two seasons, operations being commenced in the two western thanas in January 1903, and carried through so successfully by Babu Nilmoni De that by the 31st August every pice of the demand had been realised. In the following January Gogri was taken up, and the operations were conducted with equal success. When the camp closed at the end of March, only Rs. 8,500 was outstanding out of a total demand of Rs. 1,72,763, and this small balance was realised in full during the following six months.

224. As in Darbhanga, so here, Babu Nilmoni De succeeded in realising the whole of the demand, and nearly $3\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs of rupees were collected from over $3\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of assesses in less than two years; great credit is due to this officer and his staff, more especially the cashier, Maulvi Muhammad Yusuf, but of course such

phenomenal success could not have been obtained had it not been for the eagerness which the assesses displayed to obtain their "parchas" in exchange for the small sums assessed on their holdings.

225. The amount in respect of which collection had to be enforced by the certificate procedure was only 4 per cent. of the total demand, and very nearly the whole of this was due from landlords; occupiers actually paid without resort to certificate procedure no less than 99.98 per cent. of the amount due from them.

226. The cost of computation and recovery was as follows:—

Cost of computation and recovery.

					Rs.	A.	P.
Computation	...	...	...	...	4,335	15	9
Recovery camp	...	...	...	...	9,308	2	11
Certificate	...	...	...	...	1,406	10	0
Total					15,050	1	26

This represents just 4 per cent., of the amount recovered, which is rather more than similar operations cost in Darbhanga, the difference being mainly under the head "Recovery," and the explanation being that as the area dealt with each season was smaller, the proportionate cost of the initial and closing up expenses of the large camp establishment was necessarily heavier.

The gross demand calculated at $7\frac{1}{4}$ annas per acre on an area of 1,219 square miles from which costs had to be recovered comes to Rs. 3,53,510, but owing to the working of the computation rules which prescribe that all fractions of an area exceeding half-an-acre are treated as one acre, the computed demand came to Rs. 3,70,783-14-6, or Rs. 17,273 in excess. This amount is rather more than the total cost of recovery operations.

CHAPTER IV.

STATISTICS.

227. During the course of settlement operations the material for six important statistical statements was collected. The statistical statements. These are:—

- (1) The milan-khasra or abstract of the khasra plots.
- (2) The jiniswar or crop statement.
- (3) The fard-hawala or agricultural stock statement.
- (4) The terij goshwara or abstract of the khatians.
- (5) Transfer of occupancy rights.
- (6) Transfer of proprietary rights.

It is unnecessary to repeat here the description of the way in which these statements are prepared, but it should be mentioned that for this area it was necessary to fit into the statistics collected during the present operations those which had been prepared in connection with the Narhan and Srinagar operations, without which it would have been impossible to give any definite idea of North Monghyr as a whole.

The statistics discussed in this chapter are those for the three northern thanas of the district; those for the Government estates in South Monghyr have of course been compiled, but as their area is only 57 square miles made up of a number of small and scattered blocks, they have not been discussed in detail, as the figures

can hardly be taken as representative either of the south of the district as a whole or of any specific portion thereof.

228. The total area of the three northern thanas is 1,546 square miles, Area of North Monghyr. made up as follows:—

	Square Mile.
Area for which a record-of-rights was prepared in the course of the present operations	1,314
Area for Srinagar-Banaili operations, 1887—1894 ...	174
Area for Narhan estate operations, 1893—1898 ...	47
Area surveyed in detail under Act V of 1875, but not attested	2
Area surveyed topographically	9
Total ...	<u>1,546</u>

The area of this portion of the district is about half that of the adjoining district of Darbhanga, and is about equal to that of the English County of Kent. Details of the distribution of the area among the different thanas, the number of plots and holdings, and calculations of the average size of the different units will be found in Statement VII in Appendix D. These figures are briefly discussed in the following paragraphs.

229. The largest of the three thanas is Gogri, with an area of 796 square miles, which makes it easily the largest thana in the whole of North Bihar; Beguserai, with an area of 513 square miles, comes next in point of size, and Teghra, with 237, is the smallest. The whole area is further subdivided into 1,653 villages, averaging 590 acres, or rather less than a square mile in extent. The largest village is Binda Diara with an area of over 43 square miles, while the smallest is Arazi Panapur covering only one-sixth of an acre; the former is appropriately enough in thana Gogri and the latter in Teghra.

230. The area of 1,535 square miles, for which a record of-rights was prepared, was found to contain 335,586 holdings and 1,442,512 plots; the average size of a holding was therefore 2·9 acres and of a plot, ·7 of an acre. Both holding and plot are considerably larger than in the adjoining district of Darbhanga, but if the figures for the different thanas are examined in detail, it will be seen that the larger average in Monghyr is due to the figures for Gogri thana where the average size of the holding is as much as 5 acres and of a plot, a fraction under 1 acre. In Teghra where conditions approximate most closely to those obtaining in Darbhanga, the average size of the plot is only half-an-acre and of the holding little more than one and-a-half acres.

231. It is interesting to note that for the Srinagar-Banaili villages of thana Gogri which were surveyed fifteen years before the rest of the area, both plots and holdings are larger; this may be partly due to the fact that a larger proportion of the Srinagar-Banaili villages are in the central swampy area and in the diara, but it is also due in part to the extension of cultivation in this thana which has been a marked feature of the last few years.

232. Of the statistical statements mentioned in paragraph 227 above, which will be found in Appendix D, the first two relate to 1,522 square miles only, the difference in area being due to the exclusion of 9 square miles, which were surveyed topographically, and some 15 square miles of the Srinagar-Banaili area for which the khasras were either missing or for which no details had been recorded; the latter is a small area only and represents "jagirs" included in the villages belonging to the estate, but in which the estate has no proprietary interest. It was at one time proposed to prepare a detailed record-of-rights for these detached areas in the course of the present operations, but as it was ascertained that the rights of the holders or jagirdars were sufficiently protected by the Srinagar-Banaili record and the number of tenants holding under them was very few, it was not worth while to re-survey these small and detached areas with a view to prepare a detailed record.

233. Turning now to the figures showing the extent of the area which has been brought under cultivation, it will be useful in the first instance to compare them with the corresponding figures for other districts for which recent cadastral survey has furnished accurate details. These are brought together in the following statement:—

Serial number.	NAME OF DISTRICT.	Total area, in acres, for which statistics were prepared.	NET CROPPED AREA.		BHADOI.		AGHANI.		BARI.		TWICE CROPPED.		IRRIGATED.		REMARKS.
			Area in acres.	Percentage to total area.	Area in acres.	Percentage to net cropped area.	Area in acres.	Percentage to net cropped area.	Area in acres.	Percentage to net cropped area.	Area in acres.	Percentage to net cropped area.	Area in acres.	Percentage to net cropped area.	
1	North Monghyr ...	974,520	675,438	69	258,652	43	196,004	29	444,707	66	356,015	52	17,475	3	
2	Darbhanga ...	2,116,930	1,602,443	80	409,687	26	1,060,096	63	801,970	47	638,359	39	100,999	6	
3	Muzaffarpur ...	1,941,254	1,555,291	80	594,668	38	747,606	48	836,019	60	723,023	46	20,534	1	
4	Saran ...	1,633,438	1,284,010	79	525,118	41	445,199	34	791,186	62	677,466	57	194,484	15	
5	Champan ...	2,070,815	1,447,668	70	604,437	42	856,379	59	790,692	56	673,076	50	27,829	2	

The percentage of uncultivated area is 31, or rather more than in Champaran, and very considerably more than in the adjoining district of Darbhanga. The explanation is to be found in the detailed figures for the different thanas, of which Gogri has no less than 36 per cent. of its total area still uncultivated, while in Teghra the percentage is only 21 per cent., or practically the same as in the adjoining district of Darbhanga, and that in spite of the fact that Teghra includes a considerable area of riparian lands. That there should be such large differences between the different thanas included in the area under report is sufficiently explained by what has been said in previous chapters as to the physical features as well as the history of these areas, and reference need only be made here to such facts as to the extent of area under cultivation at different periods as can be ascertained from the old records and correspondence.

234. From the omission of any figures for area against five out of the nine parganas included in North Monghyr in the Ain-i-Akbari, it was inferred that in those days this area was "wholly unexplored," and it is likely at any rate that very little of it was then under cultivation. Till a very much later date, in fact till long after the permanent settlement, pargana Pharkia was in a very backward state, and from the Revenue Surveyor's report for this area we learn that he estimated the area then under cultivation at only 35 per cent. of the total area. For thanas Teghra and Beguserai Pundit Rama Ballabh Misra has compared the figures obtainable from the resumption registers for some 47 villages, from which it would appear that whereas between 1830 and 1840 the uncultivated but culturable area in these villages amounted to 14 per cent. of the total, the area now available for extension of cultivation is barely $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Or, in other words, where in 1830—1840 only 86 out of every 100 acres fit for cultivation had actually been brought under the plough, $94\frac{1}{2}$ acres are now cultivated.

The Revenue Surveyor's estimate for this area in 1847 was that 78 per cent. of the whole area was cultivated; the figures now compiled show that, including current fallow, the cultivated area in Teghra is 80 per cent. of the total, and in Beguserai, 74 per cent., or for the whole subdivision 75 per cent. From these figures it may be assumed that the Revenue Surveyor's estimate was probably an overestimate, but that, at the same time, there has been no very marked extension of the cultivated area during the last half-century, except in thana Gogri, nor, with the same exception, is there at present much room for further extension.

235. This will be more obvious from the details of the uncultivated area, the classification of which is given in the following statement :—

THANA.	Area in square miles.	PERCENTAGE TO TOTAL AREA OF—					
		Cultivated area.	Current fallow.	Culturable but not cultivated.			
				Old fallow.	Mango groves.	Other, including culturable jungle.	Total.
Teghra	237	70.28	0.82	2.86	3.87	3.42	9.95
Beguserai	804	73.11	0.87	3.45	8.70	4.85	11.01
Gogri	781	63.84	1.12	7.83	1.59	7.07	16.49
Total	1,822	69.31	0.91	8.63	2.26	5.77	13.56

THANA.	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL AREA OF—consid.				Total uncultivated.
	Not available for cultivation.				
	House sites.	Water.	Others.	Total.	
Teghra	1.00	4.03	4.28	11.05	20.73
Beguserai	1.28	10.06	3.68	15.01	26.89
Gogri	1.06	12.64	4.84	18.54	36.16
Total	2.23	16.74	12.80	31.77	50.69

236. Considerably more than half of the uncultivated area is thus not available for cultivation, being occupied by house sites, roads, rivers, jhils, and the like. Looking at the thanawar figures, it will be seen that not even in Teghra does the unculturable area represent less than one-tenth of the whole thana area, and that in Gogri it is not far short of one-fifth; as compared with other North Bihar districts, these figures are somewhat remarkable, but apart from the special reasons for the large percentage of unculturable area in thana Gogri, it must be borne in mind that both Teghra and Beguserai thanas include a very considerable area of diara lands, where there must necessarily always be a large amount of water and unculturable sand.

237. The percentages of area reserved for current fallow also show wide variations accounted for largely by the different conditions prevailing in the different thanas; in Teghra where population is thickest and cultivation the most careful, only one acre in every 240 ploughed is annually given a rest; if the figures are accurate, as I believe them to be, it must be assumed that in place of resting their lands, the cultivators in this area go in for a more than ordinarily careful rotation of crops, and this in fact is the case. In Beguserai the percentage left fallow is fairly normal for Bihar, and in Gogri where land is cheap and plentiful, rather above the average.

238. Of the culturable area, old fallow and others, including hill and jungle, account, each, for about two fifths, and mango groves for the remaining fifth. As for the first two, the thanawar variations are practically the same as in the case of current fallow, and call for no special comment. Mango groves are however proportionately most extensive in Teghra, and least so in Gogri, and nowhere do they represent so large a percentage of the total area as they do in other North Bihar districts. Here again the extensive diara areas in all three thanas, and the swamps of eastern Beguserai and Gogri thanas account for the absence of trees; in the latter thana the paucity of groves was so marked that Assistant Settlement Officers who had to work through the hot weather in this area suffered considerably from the absence of shelter for themselves and their camps.

239. Of the area unfit for cultivation, the most important item is water, which, in thana Gogri, occupies over one-eighth of the whole area, while in Beguserai it represents over 10 per cent. and in Teghra nearly 5 per cent. of the total area.

240. The miscellaneous uncultivated area consists mainly of roads, banks of rivers, and in the diara sandy tracts, and the figures show no remarkable variations.

Miscellaneous.

241. House sites are classified separately and the total area so occupied is small, being largest proportionately in Teghra where the population is densest, and smallest in

House sites.

Gogri where the pressure of population on the soil is least. In the following statement, which is based on the census figures for 1901, the chief facts deducible from these figures are set forth:—

THANA.	Area occupied by homesteads.	Number of houses.	Average size of houses, in square yards.	Number of persons per house.	Number of houses per acre.	Number of persons per acre of homesteads.
Teghra ...	2,435	44,063	293	5.3	18	96
Beguserai ...	4,137	77,410	226	5.2	19	99
Gogri ...	6,303	64,765	352	6.1	12	74
North Monghyr ...	11,875	186,238	271	5.6	16	87
Darbhang district ...	27,242	555,690	237	5.1	20	103

The average area occupied by the house, in square yards, varies fairly regularly with the average number of occupants and the number of persons residing on an acre of homestead land with the general density of population. Village sites are generally less congested than in Darbhanga, and of course least so in Gogri where population is thin and vacant lands extensive. Generally speaking, however, it cannot be said that the cultivator of Gogri thana lives in any better or more comfortable state than his neighbour in Teghra and Beguserai, or North Bihar generally, though he may have rather more elbow room.

242. From the details of the uncultivated area we may now turn to those of the cultivated, for full details of which reference may be made to the statements given in the appendices. Crops, as elsewhere, fall under one or other of the three main harvests—*bhadoi*, *aghani* and *rabi*, or autumn, winter and spring: the distribution of the cropped area under these harvests is shown for each thana in the following statement:—

THANA.	<i>Bhadoi</i> .	<i>Aghani</i> .	<i>Rabi</i> .	Total.	Twice-cropped.	Irrigated.
Teghra ...	48	19	64	131	31	1½
Beguserai ...	48	25	64	137	37	1½
Gogri ...	37	36	68	141	41	4½
Total ...	43	29	66	138	38	2½
Darbhang district ...	27	62	47	136	36	6

The most striking features are the predominance of the spring harvest, more specially in thana Gogri, and to a lesser extent of the autumn harvest in the two western thanas. The winter crop is of small importance in all three thanas, and more especially so in Teghra. As compared with the adjoining districts of Darbhanga, the place filled there by the winter crop is taken partly by the autumn and partly by the spring crop, the extent of twice-cropped area being practically the same in both areas. In thana Gogri, where little short of half the net-cropped area is twice cropped, the larger area under winter crops which admit of a second catch-crop of gram or *khesari* being grown after the rice is cut, probably accounts for the difference.

243. The percentage of area irrigated is considerably less than in Darbhanga, and, except in Gogri, the area irrigated is almost a negligible quantity. The sources of

Irrigation.

rrigation and the extent to which each is utilised are set forth in the annexed statement :—

THANA.	PERCENTAGE OF AREA IRRIGATED FROM—			CROPS IRRIGATED.			
	Wells.	Tanks.	Others.	Percentage of irrigated area under—			
				Rice.	Wheat.	Other food-crops.	Non-food-crops.
Teghra ...	40	6	54	...	1	9	90
Beguserai ...	19	16	65	18	3	17	62
Gogri ...	4	10	86	72	4	11	13
Total ...	...	...	...	60	3	12	26

Wells for irrigation purposes are little used, except in Teghra where crops, such as tobacco and chillies, are largely grown on small patches which can readily be irrigated from adjoining masonry or kutchra wells; other sources include irrigation by small channels or direct by lift from rivers, lakes, etc., and in the case of Gogri, where rice is more largely grown, it is this source which provides the means of irrigation for this crop. Even here, however, irrigation is so little resorted to that barely one acre in every ten under rice is irrigated, and these figures are hardly representative of the whole thana, as it is only in a small area in the north that irrigation is really extensively resorted to, in the villages near Chupraon Factory where Mr. H. O. Christian has realised and taught others to realise the advantage of utilising the water of the various jhils for irrigating rice lands.

244. It is hardly possible to infer anything from either the harvest or irrigation figures as to the comparative prosperity of different areas; for instance, in thana Gogri the larger twice-cropped area might suggest greater prosperity than Teghra and Beguserai, whereas, as a matter of fact, much of the second crop in the former consists of catch-crops, such as gram and *khesari*, grown on the rice lands, while in Teghra and Beguserai it is made up largely of valuable crops, such as tobacco, chillies, wheat and barley, grown on highly-manured lands which have already given a good outturn of maize.

So again the rice that is grown to so much larger an extent in Gogri is much of it of inferior quality, comparing very unfavourably, in money value at any rate, with the better quality of *bhadoi* crops produced in the two western thanas.

245. As regards immunity from famine, Mr. Stevenson-Moore's formula applies fairly accurately. Thus adding the *bhadoi* and *rabi* percentages and deducting the *aghani*, we get :—

Teghra	...	...	...	93
Beguserai	...	...	...	87
Gogri	...	...	...	69

and as we have already seen, the two former thanas have in the past been to all intents and purposes immune from famine, and Gogri only very slightly affected.

CROP STATISTICS.

246. In the two statements annexed comparative figures are given for North Monghyr and the four districts of North Bihar which have come under survey and settlement showing the percentage of the net cropped area devoted to the different crops, food and non-food :—

Districts.	PERCENTAGE TO NET CROPPED AREA OF AREA UNDER								Total.
	Rice.	Wheat.	Barley.	Maize.	Malzo.	Gram.	Other food-grains, etc.	Mixed food-grains, etc.	
1. North Monghyr ...	21	15	9	6	21	12	27	7	126
2. Darbhanga ...	61	3	9	13	5	2	20	2	115
3. Baran ...	34	6	20	3	17	5	24	3	127
4. Muzaffarpur ...	49	4	19	5	11	3	23	5	129
5. Champaran ...	54	7	15	1	8	3	25	1	116

Districts.	PERCENTAGE TO NET CROPPED AREA OF AREA UNDER						Total.
	Oil-seeds.	Sugar.	Indigo.	Opium.	Tobacco.	Other non-food-grains, etc.	
1. North Monghyr	8	...	24	...	1	4	18
2. Darbhanga	11	1	3	...	2	5	22
3. Saran	7	3	4	3	...	3	20
4. Munasarpur	4	1	6	1	1	5	18
5. Champaran	6	1	7	4	...	7	25

247. The first point of interest in these figures is the low place occupied by rice in North Monghyr, as compared with its nearest neighbour, Darbhanga; on the other hand, wheat as a *rabi* crop and maize as a winter crop account together for an area nearly double that devoted to rice and practically the same percentage of the area is sown with miscellaneous cereals and pulses. Gram occupies a position of some importance, as also does barley, but in the case of the latter, the percentage of area occupied is only equal to that in Darbhanga and is considerably less than that in the three other North Bihar districts.

The total figures for food crops do not vary much from those for other districts, but it is noticeable that Monghyr shows the highest percentage of the gross cropped area under food crops.

248. Of non-food crops, oil-seeds are, as in Darbhanga, the main crop; the percentage of area under indigo is the same as in that district, though considerably less than in other North Bihar districts. Sugar-cane and opium are grown on very small areas and the percentages are negligible quantities. Tobacco and other miscellaneous non-food crops are, however, grown in considerable quantities.

249. Looking at these figures as a whole, the most marked features are the large place given to food crops, the importance of maize as an autumn crop, and of wheat, barley, and gram as spring crops, and the comparative unimportance of the winter rice crop.

250. The thanawar distribution of the different food and non-food crops are given in Statement IX in Appendix D. The largest area in North Monghyr and also in each of the individual thanas is that covered by the miscellaneous food-grains which include all cereals and pulses other than *marua*, maize, barley, wheat, and gram for which separate figures are given. The most important of these crops are *arhar*, *khesari*, *masuri*, *peas*, *oats*, *kodo*, *china*, and *kurthi*. Of these, *khesari*, *peas*, and *kurthi* are the chief crops grown as a second or catch crop after the harvesting of the winter rice, and it is not therefore a matter for surprise that thana Gogri, where this crop is grown to a larger extent than elsewhere, returns also the highest percentage under the miscellaneous crops.

251. Of single crops, maize is the most important in the district as a whole, covering 21 per cent. of the net cropped area. In Teghra, the percentage is as high as 28 per cent., and in Begusarai 26 per cent., while in Gogri it is only 14 per cent. The unsuitability of much of the central area of the last-named thana for autumn crops owing to the recurring annual inundation and the large diara areas in the two former which are regularly sown with maize on the chance of the Ganges flood coming sufficiently late to allow of the crop being reaped, account sufficiently for the difference.

252. Rice takes the next place, also with 21 per cent., and here again the thanawar figures show very marked differences, varying from 7 per cent. in Teghra to 14 per cent. in Begusarai and 30 per cent. in Gogri. The proportion of autumn to winter rice is highest in Gogri, where 5 per cent. of the net cropped area is under *bhadoi* rice and 25 per cent. under winter rice; in the other two thanas barely 1 per cent. is under the autumn variety. In considering, however, the importance of Gogri thana as a rice growing area in comparison with the other two thanas, the fact already referred to should not be overlooked, namely, that much of the rice grown in this area is of the coarser varieties which are sown broadcast on the edges of *jhils* and swamps, and though giving little trouble to the cultivator are less prolific and produce a coarser and less

valuable grain than varieties cultivated elsewhere with greater care and at greater expense.

253. Wheat, with 15 per cent. of the net cropped area, comes next in importance, being most extensively grown in Beguserai, where this crop is raised on the lands on which the annual inundation of the Ganges leaves a rich deposit of silt; in such areas the ordinarily heavy cost of cultivation of this crop is to a large extent avoided, and the cultivator is thus able to bear with comparative equanimity the chances of loss through blight to which this crop is particularly liable.

254. Next in importance to wheat comes gram with 10 per cent.: here again Beguserai heads the list with 12 per cent., while in Gogri, the area so cropped represents barely 9 per cent. of the total. This crop is largely grown in the diaras, besides also being sown as a second crop after rice.

255. Barley, with 9 per cent., follows closely, a crop which, in the poorer lands of Gogri, takes the place to some extent of the more valuable spring crops in the other thanas.

256. Marua, with 6 per cent., is second as an autumn crop only to maize; in Beguserai it covers 7 per cent. of the area, but in Teghra only 4 per cent., its place in that thana being taken up by maize.

257. Of the miscellaneous food-crops, which cover 7 per cent. of the whole area, potatoes and chillies are the two main crops, the former being grown on nearly 10 per cent. of the net cropped area of thana Teghra and on nearly 8 per cent. in Beguserai. Chillies occupy nearly 5 per cent. in the former thana and over 3 per cent. in Beguserai. In thana Gogri, on the other hand, neither of these crops is extensively grown, and miscellaneous crops of all kinds occupy only 1 per cent. of the area in the latter thana.

258. Of the non-food-crops, the most extensively grown are oilseeds, 11 per cent. of the area in thana Gogri being devoted to this crop and over 5 per cent. in each of the other two thanas. In the two latter, linseed is the most important, while in Gogri, though the area under linseed is considerable, mustard and miscellaneous crops, such as "surguja," which can be grown with little trouble in recently-reclaimed lands, bulk most largely. Castor is fairly extensively grown in the two western thanas, but "til" is nowhere a popular crop.

259. Indigo is the only other non-food-crop, grown over a considerable area, but this is almost entirely confined to Teghra and Beguserai; a special section will be devoted to a description of the indigo industry, and further comment on the figures may be reserved.

260. Tobacco is an important crop only in Teghra where nearly 3 per cent. of the net cropped area is devoted to it; in the other two thanas this crop covers less than $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

261. Sugarcane is a crop of little importance, only 1,300 acres in all being planted with it, and of this considerably more than half is in Beguserai thana.

262. Of other crops important elsewhere but here of little importance are opium, which is grown on only 8 acres and cotton on 270 acres.

263. Gardens other than mango groves account for 1,818 acres and miscellaneous crops (among which oats is perhaps the most important) 1,531 acres. The exclusion of "kharaul" or thatching grass from these figures probably accounts mainly for the considerable difference between the figures for North Monghyr and other Bihar districts under the head of "Miscellaneous non-food crops," "kharaul" being now classed as uncultivated but culturable area instead of as a non-food-crop.

264. The following table brings together in a concise form the information regarding the prevalence of different crops in different parts of North Monghyr, which has been discussed in the preceding paragraphs.

Percentage to net cropped area of—	THANA.			Percentage to net cropped area of district as a whole.
	Teghra.	Begusarai.	Gogri.	
<i>Food-crops.</i>				
Miscellaneous food-grains ...	34	34	42	37
Maize ...	28	26	14	21
Rice aghani ...	6	13	25	18
„ bhadoi ...	1	1	5	3
Total rice ...	7	14	30	21
Wheat ...	11	16	15	15
Gram ...	11	12	9	10
Barley ...	7	7	11	9
Miscellaneous food-crops ...	14	11	1	7
Marua ...	4	7	6	6
Total ...	116	127	128	126
<i>Non-food-crops.</i>				
Oil-seeds ...	5	5	11	8
Indigo ...	6	4	...	2½
Tobacco ...	3	½	½	1
Miscellaneous ...	½	½	1	½
Total ...	15	10	13	12
GRAND TOTAL ...	131	137	141	138

AGRICULTURAL STOCK.

265. The figures given in the Agricultural Stock Statement printed as Appendix D (iii) of the report include, besides those collected for the area covered by the present operations, those compiled for the Narhan Estate villages surveyed in 1893—98; they do not however include statistics for the Srinagar-Banaili villages which were surveyed in 1887.

The total area to which the figures relate is thus only 1,386 square miles, of which 949 square miles, or 69 per cent. are cultivated. The population of this area, as calculated from the average density per square mile for the different thanas, is 964,904. The total number of live-stock in this area is just under 4 lakhs, which gives 42 head per 100 persons of the total population as against 34 per 100 in Darbhanga and only 29 in Saran. The detailed figures for the different thanas show that this high figure is due to thana Gogri where the large area still available for grazing results in there being no less than 54 head of cattle per 100 inhabitants.

266. Looking further into the details, we find that in the whole area bulls and bullocks are the most numerous class, followed fairly closely by cows; in Gogri thana, however, the number of cows slightly exceeds that of bulls and bullocks—a fact that might be anticipated from the nature of the country. Buffaloes are most numerous in Begusarai, and it is noticeable that the proportion of male buffaloes to females is even less than it is in Darbhanga, though I am not aware that there is any special outside demand for Monghyr male buffaloes as there is for those of Darbhanga.

267. The number of calves is no less than 61 per 100 cows and cow buffaloes—an extraordinarily high figures as compared with other districts of North Bihar; the thana figures show little variations, and the argument, therefore, that the ample extent

of good grazing available in Thana Gogri tends to make the cattle more prolific or the young stock healthier, at first sight hardly applies; to some extent, however, it does apply, as Gogri provides pasturage not only for the local cattle, but also for large numbers which are brought in to graze there at seasons of the year when grazing is scarce elsewhere.

268. Goats, which number over half-a-lakh, are more numerous in thanas Beguserai and Gogri, in the former of which Musalmans form nearly 10 per cent. of the whole population, while in Gogri, though the percentage is less, the proportion of Musalmans to Hindus in the more advanced area in the north is very considerable.

269. Sheep, as might be expected, are most numerous in Gogri; horses and ponies, mules and donkeys, are comparatively insignificant in numbers, though fairly equally distributed.

270. There are 63 ploughs and 7 carts for every square mile of cultivated area; the corresponding figures for Darbhanga district are 43 and 5, so that in respect of both, North Monghyr is comparatively well off as compared with its neighbours. If a pair of bulls and bullocks are allowed for each cart, there remain something over a pair for each plough. The figures for the different thanas show little variation, and the number of acres of cultivated area per plough is in each case 12. The corresponding figure for Darbhanga is 15 acres, for Saran 17 acres, and for Muzaffarpur 18 acres; but from these figures, I do not think it would be safe to argue that plough cultivation is better done or more necessary in North Monghyr; the number of ploughs depends mainly on the number of cattle, and that again on the area available for grazing or the possibilities of hand-feeding, and it is obvious that in respect of grazing ground, North Monghyr is better off than any of the other districts named, and at least as well off as Champaran.

STATUS

271. Statistics of status are contained in the terij goshwara, Appendix D (IV), which is an abstract of the "terij," the terij in its turn being an abstract of the khatians. The figures given are for an area of 1,515 square miles for which a record-of-rights was prepared in the course of the Narhan and Srinagar-Banaili surveys, as well as during the present operations. Out of this area, 1,201 square miles, or 78 per cent. is shown as occupied and 314 square miles, or 22 per cent. as unoccupied.

272. Lands held by public bodies, such as the District Board and Railway Company, cover only 7,458 acres, or barely 0·7 of the whole area — a figure which would, however, be considerably increased were the land since acquired for the Mansi-Bhaptiahi Railway included.

273. In the "gairmazrua" khatians in which 21 per cent. of the whole area has been recorded, a distinction is made between such lands as are the general or common property of the village, *e.g.*, village roads, tanks, etc., and waste lands not in any particular person's possession, which the landlord has it in his power to bring under cultivation, or let out to tenants for cultivation or other purposes; the former are classed as "gairmazrua am" and the latter as "gairmazrua khas." Homestead lands, which form a part of the tenants' holding, are not included with these, but are shown in the tenants' khatians, and therefore fall within the occupied area, as also do lands which, though not actually brought under cultivation, have been specifically settled with tenants. Hence it is that though the crop and area statements show 31 per cent. of the whole area as uncultivated, only 22 per cent. is classed as not occupied.

274. As compared with other districts of North Bihar, North Monghyr returns a smaller percentage of occupied area than either Muzaffarpur (88 per cent.) Saran or Darbhanga, (86 per cent. each). The percentage is slightly larger than Champaran, where only 76 per cent. of the area is returned as occupied. The following

statement shows how this area is apportioned between the different classes of tenancies :—

STATUS.	TENANCIES.		AREA		
	Total number.	Percentage to total number of holdings.	In acres.	Percentage to total occupied area.	Average size of a holding, in acres.
Proprietor's private land (zirat)	7	0 02	619	08	88.43
Held by proprietors but not zirat.	14,820	4 68	77,676	10.10	5.24
In cultivating possession of tenure-holders.	2,823	89	21,948	2.87	7.77
Raiyats at fixed rates ...	666	21	1,871	24	2.81
Settled and occupancy raiyats...	2,82,332	89.12	624,830	81.28	2.21
Non-occupancy and diara raiyats	9,904	3.12	33,822	4.40	3.41
Rent-free holders ...	6,240	1.96	7,925	1.03	1.27
Total ...	3,16,792	100	768,691	100	2.43
Under-tenants ...	16,707	5.92	16,778	2.69	1.00

Similar figures showing the details for each thana and for the areas covered by the Narhan, Srinagar-Banaili, and present operations, separately will be found in Statements X, XI and XII attached to Appendix D.

Dealing with these figures as a whole, it will be seen that of the total occupied area tenants with secure rights and rent-free holders occupy 82½ per cent., tenants with insecure rights 4½ per cent., and proprietors and tenure-holders the remaining 13 per cent.

275. The corresponding figures for other North Bihar districts are:—

	Muzaf-farpur.	Saran.	Cham-paran.	Dar-bhanga.	North Monghyr.
Proprietors and tenure-holders	19	10	9	14	19
Tenants with secure rights ...	79	89	88	85	82½
Tenants with insecure rights ...	2	3	3	1	4½

The most striking feature is the comparatively large percentage held by non-occupancy raiyats in North Monghyr as compared with other districts, in only one of which, namely, Champaran, is this percentage even approached. The explanation follows naturally from the history of Gogri thana where recent years have seen a considerable extension of the cultivated area, and where much of the new cultivation has been made by tenants from outside who have not yet had time to acquire occupancy or settled rights.

In respect of the area held by the landlords, there is little difference between North Monghyr and its immediate neighbour, Darbhanga, and the slightly lower percentage may perhaps be accounted for by the fact that in thana Gogri there are practically no indigo-planters who, as lessees, hold considerable areas in almost every thana of Darbhanga district, as well as in Teghra and Beguserai of this district.

276. Of the area occupied by landlords, only 619 acres has been recorded as zirat or proprietor's private land, and of this, over two-thirds in thanas Teghra and Beguserai lies in the villages of the Narhan estate. In an area held so largely by petty proprietors, a larger percentage of true "zirat" land might have been anticipated, but the fact that under "kamat," the term ordinarily used in this area instead

of "zirat," are locally included all lands in the landlord's cultivating possession, as well as such lands as, though settled with tenants, have at any time been bought in by the landlord at sales of raiyati holding for arrears of rent, made it difficult for them to prove that specific pieces of land claimed as "kamat" were really "kamat" in the sense of proprietor's private lands, as defined in section 120 of the Act. Frequently a portion of a large "chakla" in the landlord's possession may have been true "kamat," but the fact that he could not distinguish in this between the old and original "kamat" and that which had been acquired from tenants, made it necessary to record the whole as merely "bakasht," or in the cultivating possession of the landlord. In this connection, it may be noted that, just as in Bihar proper, the use of the word "zirat" to include both true proprietor's land and others led, on more than one occasion, to mistaken findings as to status in the Civil Courts, so, as the special reports on section 106 cases in thanas Teghra and Beguserai printed as Appendix H to this report will show, the Munsifs in more than one case declared lands to be "kamat," apparently meaning thereby proprietor's private lands, which were undoubtedly only "kamat" in the local sense of term.

277. Nearly 5 per cent. of the total number of tenancies, covering 10 per cent. of the occupied area, were recorded as "bakasht malik," that is to say, as in the cultivating possession of the proprietor, but not proprietor's private land. In Beguserai and Teghra, where petty landlords predominate, the percentage to the occupied area of lands so recorded is 14 and 11 as compared with less than 7 per cent. in Gogri. The average size of such tenancies is largest in the last-named area, where it is over 17 acres as compared with $4\frac{1}{2}$ acres in Beguserai and less than 4 acres in Teghra; these figures illustrate fairly accurately the extent to which the petty proprietor figures in the different areas; in the Narhan and Srinagar-Banaili villages the number of holdings of this class is, as might be expected, very small.

278. Tenure-holders cultivate 21,948 acres, or less than 3 per cent. of the occupied area, in parcels averaging something under 8 acres. Such holdings are most numerous, and the percentage of area largest in Teghra where, however, the average size is only $4\frac{1}{2}$ acres. In Gogri, where actually the largest area is found, the average size is over 16 acres. These differences are due to the different conditions: in Teghra and Beguserai indigo-planters form the bulk of the tenure-holders, and as they hold from numerous petty proprietors, the size of the holdings is naturally small. In Gogri, on the other hand, there is less subdivision of proprietary interests, and the tenure-holders are largely ordinary "thikadars" holding complete villages in which the comparative cheapness and unproductiveness of the land tend to swell the size of the holdings which they keep in their direct cultivation.

279. Barely 1 in 500 holdings has been recorded as held by raiyats at fixed rent or rate of rent, and only 1,871 acres, or less than $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. of the occupied area, are so held. Teghra returns the largest number of such holdings, but their average size is barely $1\frac{1}{4}$ acres as compared with $3\frac{1}{2}$ in Beguserai and over 7 acres in Gogri. In the latter thana, it will be remembered, numerous claims to hold at fixed rates were made by the tenants of the Bakhtiarpur estate, but the majority of these were disallowed.

280. The great mass of the tenants are settled and occupancy raiyats. The number of holdings of this class is 282,332, or more than 80 per cent. of the total number of occupied holdings, and over 81 per cent. of the occupied area is held by tenants with occupancy rights; the average size of a holding is nearly $2\frac{1}{4}$ acres. There is little variation between the thana figures, except in respect of the average size, which varies from 1.36 acres in Teghra and 1.80 in Beguserai to 3.56 in Gogri; as however the holding represents the area held by tenants under a single landlord, and not the total area held by them in a village, these figures merely illustrate the fact that Teghra and Beguserai are the domain of petty landlords, and of subdivision of proprietary interest, whereas Gogri is, speaking generally, owned by comparatively big proprietors. This fact is still

more clearly brought out by a comparison of the figures for the Narhan and Srinagar-Banaili villages, as shown in the annexed table :—

THANA.	AVERAGE SIZE OF AN OCCUPANCY HOLDING.		Others.	The thana and district as a whole.
	Srinagar-Banaili villages.	Narhan villages.		
Teghra ... ..	...	2.63	1.27	1.36
Beguserai	6.99	2.52	1.76	1.80
Gogri	5.27	...	3.25	3.56
North Monghyr	5.27	2.58	2.04	2.21

The Srinagar-Banaili area in thana Beguserai is insignificant, and the figures can hardly be taken as typical, but those for Gogri may be taken as representing fairly accurately the actual average area of a tenant's holding in that area as may those for the Narhan villages as representing the much smaller area which the pressure of population on the soil allows for the average occupancy raiyat in thanas Teghra and Beguserai.

281. Non-occupancy holdings account for over 3 per cent. of the total number of holdings and cover nearly $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the occupied area and average nearly $3\frac{1}{2}$ acres in size. Few of these however are in the two western thanas, where less than 2 per cent. is held by tenants without rights of occupancy. The bulk of the area is in Gogri where over 8 per cent. of the total number of holdings belongs to this class, and over $7\frac{1}{2}$ of the occupied area is so held. These figures have already been sufficiently explained, and I would only note that nearly one-fifth of these holdings are in the Srinagar-Banaili villages for which the record-of-rights was prepared over 12 years ago, and it may be assumed therefore that many of these tenants have since secured occupancy rights by lapse of time.

282. Barely 1 per cent. of the whole occupied area is held free of rent, though the number of such holdings is nearly 2 per cent. of the total number; the average area is just over $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres. Both number and area are swelled in Gogri by the inclusion in the figures for Srinagar-Banaili villages of the "jagir" areas which are in fact revenue-free properties, and not merely rent-free holdings under the landlords. Elsewhere the area held by rent-free holders represents only the area held in direct possession by such; when rent-free properties are leased out in whole or in part to tenants, the holder has been treated as a tenure-holder; and it would be inaccurate therefore to infer from the figures given that only 1 per cent. of the whole occupied area is held free of rent.

283. Under-raiyats hold over $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the occupied area, and the number is equivalent to nearly 6 per cent. on the total number of the occupied holdings. The average area of the holding is only 1 acre, varying from .84 of an acre in Teghra to 1.33 of an acre in Gogri. Apart from this, the thana figures show but slight variations, and there is nothing to show that raiyati interests are to any large extent being acquired by non-agriculturalists and sublet to the actual cultivators. Many of the under-tenants are, as elsewhere, the servants of the actual tenants, and in lieu of, or in addition to, wages get a small part of the superior tenant's holding on which to build a house, and cultivate a small area attached thereto on their own behalf.

284. The distribution of area among the different classes of tenancies having been considered, I proceed now to discuss a few special points with reference to proprietary interests, tenures and raiyati interests.

PROPRIETARY INTERESTS.

285. Reference has been made in a previous chapter to the complicated nature of the record of proprietary interests, and in the succeeding paragraphs I propose to explain this in some detail.

According to the Collector's registers, the total number of estates having lands in North Monghyr is 4,367, but as the figures given in the annexed statement will show, we had to frame 9,730 separate records of proprietary interests, and our labour was further increased by the fact that 901 estates were found to have been privately partitioned into no less than 5,899 "pattis," for each of which a separate sub-record had to be prepared.

A comparison of the record of proprietary interest in revenue-paying and revenue-free estates is made in the annexed statement:—

Serial No.	ESTATE.	NUMBER OF ESTATES.			Number of pattis.	NUMBER OF PROPRIETORS.			Percentage of estates privately partitioned.	Average number of pattis per privately-partitioned estate.	AVERAGE NUMBER OF PROPRIETORS.				REMARKS.
		Joint.	Privately partitioned.	Total.		Joint.	Privately partitioned.	Total.			In joint estates.	In a privately partitioned estate.	Total.	Per patti.	
1	Total revenue-paying ...	7,604	772	8,376	6,338	62,086	14,139	76,225	9	7	2	21	9	2	
2	Total revenue-free ...	1,235	129	1,364	561	3,697	1,478	5,175	10	4	3	11	4	4	
	Total ...	8,839	901	9,730	6,899	65,783	15,617	81,400	9	7	7	20	9	3	

286. Nine per cent. of the revenue-paying and 10 per cent. of the revenue-free estates were found to have been privately partitioned, and on an average there are 7 pattis in each such estate. Curiously enough the percentage of such estates is largest in Gogri, where 14 in every 100 are so partitioned as against 10 in Beguserai and only 7 in Teghra. The explanation is perhaps to be found in the fact that in Gogri estates are larger and the cost of regular partition is in many cases prohibitive, while a private arrangement by villages or portions of villages is a comparatively simple matter.

The number of proprietors is greatest in privately-partitioned revenue-paying estates where they average 21 and least in jointly-held revenue-free properties where it is only 3; the explanation of the latter figure being the fact that many of the revenue-free properties are of very small extent.

287. In the following statement are brought together figures for each thana showing the number of estates, pattis, khewat numbers and proprietors, and the average area of each of these units:—

Serial No.	Name of thana.	Total number of villages.	NUMBER OF ESTATES AS PER VILLAGE KHEWAT.			KHEWAT NUMBER					Total number of proprietors.	TOTAL AREA, IN ACRES.	
			Jointly.	Privately partitioned.	Total.	Integral.	Fractional.	Total.	Of estates having no separate lands.	Net khewat numbers having separate lands.		Total.	Cultivated.
1	Teghra ...	559	3,526	255	3,781	4,068	1,646	5,693	189	5,414	30,900	181,840	110,378
2	Beguserai ...	664	3,768	309	4,107	4,962	3,886	7,748	334	7,414	45,123	322,807	235,633
3	Gogri ...	415	1,535	247	1,792	1,711	1,021	2,732	21	2,711	7,387	608,697	393,001
	Total ...	1,640	8,829	901	9,730	10,741	5,955	16,693	544	15,532	83,410	982,644	681,002

Serial No.	Name of thana.	AVERAGE AREA OF VILLAGE.		AVERAGE NUMBER PER VILLAGE OF—					AVERAGE AREA PER VILLAGE.						REMARKS.
		Total.	Cultivated.	Estate.	Total khewat numbers.	Net khewat numbers having separate lands.	Proprietors.	Estate.		Khewat number.		Per proprietor.			
								Total.	Cultivated.	Total.	Cultivated.	Total.	Cultivated.		
1	Teghra	273	215	7	10	10	55	40	32	28	23	5	4		
2	Beguserai	484	384	6	12	11	68	77	57	43	32	7	4		
3	Gogri	1,226	788	4	7	7	18	285	183	187	120	69	44		
	Total	899	415	0	10	9	51	101	70	63	44	12	8		

If we add the number of pattis to the number of estates held jointly, shown in the previous statement, we get 14,728 as the total number of estate units for which sub-records were necessary, but the statement given above shows the total of khewat numbers as 16,083; this difference is due to the inclusion in the latter of the "shamilat" patti or parcels of land held jointly by two or more estates or pattis. But of this larger number, 544 related to estates which are held entirely joint with others and have no separate lands of their own.

The net number of khewat entries to which separate lands were assigned is therefore 15,539 with which may be compared 41,504 in Darbhanga where the area was just about double. The number of proprietors was 83,410 as against 135,178 in Darbhanga and 163,933 in Muzaffarpur. The differences are explained by the detailed thanawar figures which show that if Gogri were excluded, the figures for the two western thanas would be proportionately as large, if not larger than either of the two districts compared.

Taking the figures as a whole, we get the average area of a village as 599 acres, of which 415 are under cultivation: this is ordinarily divided among six different estates or pattis, and has no less than 51 proprietors: each proprietor's share is thus only about 12 acres, of which 8 are cultivated.

288. These figures, extraordinary as they are, are entirely put in the shade by those for thanas Teghra and Beguserai, where 4 and 5 acres represent each proprietor's share, and the average patti or estate is only 40 and 77 acres in extent. In Gogri, on the other hand, an estate averages 285 acres and each proprietor's interest 69, of which 44 are under cultivation.

The figures for thanas Teghra and Beguserai are compared in the following statement with those for the Darbhanga, Muzaffarpur and Saran districts.—

THANA.	Average area of village.	Average number of estates.	Average net khewat numbers.	Average number of proprietors per village.	Average size of estate.	Average area held by one proprietor.
	Acres.				Acres.	Acres.
Teghra ..	272	7	10	55	40	5
Beguserai ...	484	6	11	68	77	7
Darbhangā ...	624	6	12	40	107	16
Muzaffarpur ...	429	■	10	37	77	12
Saran ...	389	3	8	25	131	14

From this, it would appear that in respect of minute subdivision of proprietary interests, Teghra and Beguserai easily surpass the rest of North Bihar.

TENURES.

289. Fortunately for the Settlement staff, tenures in North Monghyr were as simple and straightforward as proprietary interests were intricate; subinfeudation was ordinarily in the first degree only, and affected less than 20 per cent. of the area. Rent-paying tenures extended to 17 per cent. of the whole area, and rent-free to 2 per cent., and of the whole of this area, only 4 per cent. was sublet.

290. In respect of rent-free tenures, the percentage is practically the same as in Muzaffarpur, and is only one-fifth of that in Darbhanga and two-fifths of that in Saran, in both of which districts the numerous grants made in old days to their followers by big landlords, such as Darbhanga and Hatwa, swelled the percentage of rent-free tenures very considerably. As compared with these districts, North Monghyr takes the lowest place in the total proportion of area let to tenure-holders of all kinds, Darbhanga returning 22 per cent., Muzaffarpur 27 per cent. and Saran as much as 42 per cent. The thanawar figures show that in Teghra, which returns 27 per cent., conditions are most like those prevailing in the neighbouring district of Darbhanga, while Gogri, with only 17 per cent. let to tenure-holders accounts for the general average being so low.

For these differences the figures given in the following statement will provide some explanation :—

Serial number.	Name of thana.	Total khewat entries Statement.	Total area.	APPERTAINING TO RENT-PAYING TENURES OF ALL CLASSES.					TEMPORARY.							
				Khewat entries, both wholly and partly.		Area proportionate to the time.	To all class of persons.			To indigo-planters alone.						
				Number.	Percentage of total khewat entries.		Area.	Percentage of total area.	Number.	Percentage of total khewat entries.	Area.	Percentage of total area.	Number.	Percentage of total khewat entries.	Area.	Percentage of total area.
1	Teghra	...	4,810	181,840	1,819	43	87,898	25	1,180	33,381	23	655	15	23,376	15	
2	Beguserai	...	4,761	322,807	1,410	18	57,914	18	1,241	55,583	17	518	11	25,590	8	
3	Gagri	...	1,968	508,697	626	15	77,901	15	565	69,385	13	3	0.2	1,895	0.4	
	Total	...	11,039	982,844	3,855	35	173,803	18	2,986	167,649	16	1,171	11	50,819	5	

Serial number.	Name of thana.	Total number of leases.	NUMBER OF LEASES OF TEMPORARY TENURES.						PERMANENT.							
			Farming.		Zarpeshgi.		Other kinds.		To all classes of persons.				To indigo-planters alone.			
			Number.	Percentage of total number of leases.	Number.	Percentage of total number of leases.	Number.	Percentage of total number of leases.	Khewat entries.		Area.		Khewat entries.		Area.	
									Number.	Percentage of khewat entries.	Area.	Percentage of total area.	Number.	Percentage of total khewat entries.	Area.	Percentage of total area.
1	Teghra	...	1,667	1,171	70	420	25	76	629	14	4,317	3	41	95	1,111	78
2	Beguserai	...	1,908	1,068	64	736	38	99	169	3	2,081	1	9	19	403	08
3	Gagri	...	196	60	31	135	69	1	71	4	9,604	2	1	08	73	01
	Total	...	3,766	2,299	60	1,291	34	176	869	8	15,954	3	51	46	1,687	16

Here a distinction is made between permanent and temporary tenures and between tenures leased to indigo-planters and others. In Teghra, out of the 25 per cent. of the total area leased, no less than 15 per cent. is leased temporarily, and another 1 per cent. permanently to indigo-planters. So in Beguserai, of 18 per cent. leased to tenure-holders, over 8 per cent. is in the hands of indigo-planters: in Gagri, on the other hand, where only 15 per cent. of the area is let out in the form of tenures, planters hold barely 1 acre in 200.

291. The total number of rent-paying tenures is 3,855, or rather more than one-third of the total number of estates and pottis for which the proprietor's khewats contain separate entries. Less than one-quarter of these are permanent tenures, and the area occupied by them is only 2 per cent. of the total area and one-eighth of that occupied by temporary tenures. Such tenures are most numerous, though small in extent, in Teghra, where most of the indigo factories hold small blocks of lands on these tenures. In Gagri they are few in number but large in area, owing to the fact that relations of the proprietors of the Banaili-Srinagar estate hold some 7,580 acres comprised in only 15 tenures of this class.

292. A further distinction is drawn between different kinds of temporary tenures. Out of 3,766 in all, 2,299 are farming leases, 1,291 leases on *zarpeshgi* or usufructuary mortgage, and 176 only of other miscellaneous descriptions; farming leases are

proportionately most numerous in Teghra, where, as has already been noticed, nearly three-quarters of the area leased is held by indigo factories, who, speaking generally, are considerate landlords. The percentage of mortgages is greatest in Gogri, where actually a larger area is leased out than in the other two thanas, though the percentage to the total is much less.

Of the miscellaneous forms of tenure, the commonest is probably the *sadua-patua*, where both principal and interest are liquidated by the annual rent payable by the mortgagee; such tenures are practically only found in the two western thanas and the majority of them are probably held by factories.

293. Of rent-free tenures which, as we have already seen, occupy only 2 per cent. of the total district area, there are in all 3,541. These are distributed as follows:—

Rent-free tenures;—Nature.

	Number.	Area.
Religious	3,143	5,896
Service	218	967
Malikana	87	860
Others	98	7,727

The most numerous are the religious grants, but the area covered by these is proportionately small; much the largest area comes under the description "others," though the number of such grants is comparatively few; this class includes maintenance grants to members of their families by proprietors. *Malikana* grants consist of lands held rent-free in perpetuity by former proprietors, and though few in number the average area, nearly 10 acres, is considerable. If the thanawar figures are compared, it will be seen that religious grants are most numerous in Teghra and Beguserai, while in respect of the area held on service tenure, *malikana* and otherwise, Gogri tops the list: of the last named it is true there are only 12 in this area, but they average over 366 acres each in extent.

294. Under-tenures cover less than 1 per cent. of the total area of North Monghyr, and only number 297 in all, with an average area of 3 acres. Barely 1½ per cent. of the whole area sublet forms permanent under-tenures, and of this, one-third is in the possession of indigo factories. Of the 6,828 acres sublet temporarily, 30 per cent. is held by indigo factories, mostly in Teghra and Beguserai.

RAIYATI RENTS.

295. Rents are of two kinds, cash and produce; raiyats holding at fixed rates or rents necessarily pay only in cash, but for the other classes (including under-raiyats) the proportionate area held on cash and produce rent differs considerably, as the annexed statement will show:—

Class.	Total area of holdings.	Area held on produce rent.	Percentage on produce rent.	CORRESPONDING PERCENTAGE IN			
				Darbhanga.	Mazafarpur.	Saran.	Champan.
Settled and occupancy	624,830	35,894	6	8	7	4	4
Non-occupancy	31,369	2,453	7	7	19	8	22
Under-raiyats	6,778	10,119	60	53	61	23	65

296. The area held by non-occupancy and under-raiyats is comparatively small, and so far as the general percentages go there is little difference between the percentages held here and in Darbhanga on produce rents. In the case of settled and occupancy raiyats the percentage so held in Monghyr is actually less than in Darbhanga, but it would not be safe to argue from this that North Monghyr has reached a higher standard of agricultural development, or that there is any very close connection between agricultural development and the prevalence of cash rents,

for, curiously enough, the two small and advanced thanas, Teghra and Beguserai, show a very much larger percentage held on produce rent than does the large but admittedly backward Gogri. The actual figures for the three thanas are—

Teghra	...	...	10	per cent.
Beguserai	...	...	7.16	"
Gogri	...	...	3.30	"

297. The explanation for these differences lies in what has been said in a previous paragraph about *kamat* lands, i.e., lands claimed by the proprietors as their own private lands in virtue, in most cases, of the mere fact that they are purchased tenants' holdings. As in Saran, here also the idea is prevalent that occupancy rights do not accrue in lands held on produce rents, and consequently it has been the practice, in Teghra especially, to lease out on these terms all *kamat* lands with a view to prevent the acquisition by tenants of any rights therein. Further there is the fact that in this area most landlords are petty and resident, they are better able to look after their interests in produce-rent-paying lands, and it was not uncommon to find lands which grow mainly the valuable crops, such as tobacco and chillies, paying a produce rent which of course brought in a very much larger profit to the landlord, able to see that he got his share of the crop, than would the ordinary rates of cash rent at which he was likely to be able to effect a settlement. As we saw elsewhere, the landlords failed generally to establish their title to have these *kamat* lands recorded as proprietors' private lands; but in spite of this, there can be no doubt that so long as they can collect these produce rents, they are more likely to recoup themselves for the expenditure incurred in buying in raiyats' holdings at sales for arrears of rent, than if they had settled them on cash rents at rates even considerably higher than the normal. The large percentage of area held on produce rent in thana Teghra is therefore in itself a strong indication that the petty landlord of this area has a careful eye to his own interest.

On the other hand, in Gogri, where the comparatively backward state of agriculture ought to have led one to expect a larger proportion of the area held on produce rent, the fact that the landlords are bigger men with wider areas to look after, and that the state of the country is such that communications are difficult, has successfully counteracted any tendency to settle the newly reclaimed areas on terms of produce rent.

298. The forms of produce rent most common are *batai*, *bhaoli* and *mankhap*. Between the two former the only real distinction is that in the first an actual division of the crop on the ground is made, while in the second the whole crop is valued or appraised, and the tenant makes over half (or its value in cash) of the amount estimated, and not of the actual crop reaped. That is to say, if the crop is better than the appraisal the tenant's share is larger, and *vice versa*.

299. By *mankhap* is meant the system under which the annual rent is expressed, not in terms of cash, but in maunds of grain; the value of which in cash at the market rate has to be paid to the landlord on the date fixed.

Of this particularly oppressive form of rent, bearing as it does most hardly on the tenant in years when crops are smallest, a conspicuous instance in the village Rani, in thana Teghra, has already been described. Here the crops selected were the most valuable that could be grown, and practically no allowance was made for a season when such crops could not be sown. A less oppressive form of *mankhap* rents is met with occasionally, where the rent is fixed in maunds of grain, without specification of the kind of grain. Here, however, the landlord is bound to be a loser, as the tenant naturally pays in the grain that happens to be the cheapest.

300. Between *mankhap* and *manhunda* the distinction is not a very clear or marked one in this area, but it may be assumed generally that *mankhap* is only leviable (in ordinary cases) on the area actually cropped, whereas *manhunda* is a fixed rent of so many maunds of grain on the whole holding, whether cropped or not cropped.

301. From produce rents I turn now to cash rents, and in the following statement the average incidence of cash rent on the holdings of tenants of different classes, excluding the area held by them on produce rents, is worked out, comparative figures for other North Bihar districts being given in parallel columns:—

CLASS OF RAIYAT.	Cash rent paying area, in acres.	Total cash rent.	Rate of rent per acre.	CORRESPONDING RATE IN—				REMARKS
				Muzaffarpur.	Saran.	Champaran.	Darbhanga.	
		Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Raiyats at fixed rates ...	1,871	3,005	1 4 2	3 11 11	3 4 9	1 2 8	1 12 0	
Settled and occupancy raiyats.	588,936	17,41,575	2 15 4	3 11 3	4 5 4	1 16 11	3 12 6	
Non-occupancy raiyats ...	81,360	84,148	2 10 10	4 9 0	5 0 6	1 12 10	4 7 10	
Total ...	681,176	18,28,728	2 15 0	3 13 5	4 5 4	1 14 7	3 12 4	
Under-raiyats ...	6,659	26,897	3 15 4	4 5 8	5 2 8	2 8 10	4 8 4	

302. Taking the statement as a whole, it will be noticed that raiyats of all classes are assessed more lightly in North Thanawar rent-rates. Monghyr than they are in any North Bihar district, except Champaran, but here again the general averages give no real clue to the actual conditions, as the differences between the two western thanas and Gogri are considerable. Before discussing these figures further, I would, therefore, invite attention to the following comparative statement for the three thanas:—

CLASS OF TENANTS.	INCIDENCE OF CASH-RENTS IN THANAS.			North Monghyr as a whole.
	Teghra.	Beguserai.	Gogri.	
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Raiyats at fixed rates ...	1 9 9	2 6 11	0 12 2	1 11 8
Settled and occupancy raiyats ...	3 11 1	4 11 9	2 11 9	2 15 4
Non-occupancy raiyats ...	4 3 3	4 6 4	2 5 5	2 10 10
Total ...	3 11 1	4 6 11	2 6 6	2 15 0
Under-raiyats ...	5 0 7	4 15 3	2 6 0	3 15 4

303. Excluding tenants at fixed rates who form a very small percentage of the whole body of tenants in this area, it will thus appear that in Teghra and Beguserai the incidence of rents is very little lower than in the adjoining district of Darbhanga, while Gogri ranks only just above Champaran—admittedly the most backward district of the whole of North Bihar in respect of rents.

So far as under-raiyats are concerned, the incidence of rents in the two western thanas is actually greater than it is in Darbhanga and Muzaffarpur, and only slightly less than in Saran.

304. Even more interesting, perhaps, than the thanawar variations of rent are the variations in rates as levied by different classes of landlords. A statement to show this has been compiled for 361 villages covering an area of 356 square miles, of which the following is an abstract:—

	Villages.	Rs.	A.	P.
Srinagar-Banaili estate ...	104	2	3	3
Narhan estate ...	54	2	9	3
Other important proprietors ...	133	3	2	5
Petty proprietors ...	20	3	10	9
Native ticcadars ...	10	4	0	3
Factories ...	40	2	12	3
Total ...	361	.....	

As might be expected, the Srinagar-Banaili estate, which lies mainly in Gogri thana and for which the figures are based on the rents attested over twelve years ago, shows the lowest incidence. Narhan, with a considerably smaller area, all of which however lies within the two more advanced thanas, shows an incidence slightly higher, but still well below the general averages for those thanas.

In 133 villages belonging to other proprietors of some standing, including the Maharaja of Sonbursa, Babus Udit Narain and Ram Bahadur Singh, the Bakhtiarpur estate, Rai Kashi Prasad and four Mahants of the Beguserai subdivision, the figures rise to well over the general average for the district, and with the petty proprietors, mostly of Teghra and Boguserai, we nearly reach the general average for the former thana, and this average is surpassed in the villages belonging to native ticcadars. In villages owned or leased by indigo factories we drop once more to a rate slightly less than the general rate for North Monghyr, though the bulk of the area selected lies within the two more highly-rented thanas.

305. With these may be compared the figures for the Government estate areas in these three thanas, which have been discussed in detail in a separate section:—

Comparison with Government estate figures.

THANA.	Number of estates.	INCIDENCE OF—					
		Existing rent.			Rent settled.		
Gogri	9	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Teghra	1	1	15	6	2	0	1
Beguserai	22	3	12	8	5	11	5
		2	1	11	2	14	4

Except in the case of the isolated estate of Teghra, where the enhancement of rate appears extraordinarily high, neither the old rates nor the new exceed or even come up to the general averages for this part of the district in which one estate lies, and it cannot be said that Government shows any tendency to be a harder task-master than even the most considerate of its neighbours.

306. At this point some account of the history of rents in North Monghyr would naturally have come in, but I regret that the materials compiled elsewhere from the resumption and thakbust registers are not forthcoming for North Monghyr, and the old English correspondence contains little of interest on the subject. From an ancient statement found in the Monghyr Collectorate, I am able, however, to give the following somewhat curious information about rates of rent in parganas Malki and Baliah for the years 1186—1195 Faslî corresponding to 1779—1788 A.D.

				Malki.		Balliah.	
				Rs.	A.	Rs.	A.
Tobacco	...	...	}	4	8	5	0
				3	12	4	0
				3	0	3	8
				2	10	3	0
Cotton, white	...	...	}	2	8	2	8
				2	4	2	4
				2	0	2	0
				1	14	1	14
Cotton, red	...	...	}	1	12	1	12
				3	0	3	0
				2	18	21	8
				2	5	2	5
Sweet potatoes	...	...	}	2	14	2	14
				2	0	2	0
Suthni	...	...	}	1	12	1	12
				2	8	2	12
Turmeric	...	...	}	2	0	2	8
				4	0	4	4
Kakri	...	...	}	3	12	3	12
				1	9	1	4
Arroah (alua or rahar)	...	...	}	2	14	2	14
				2	8	2	8
Sugarcane	...	...	}	3	12	3	8
				3	4	3	4

				Malki.		Balliah.	
				Rs.	A.	Rs.	A.
Ginger	...	...	...	4	8	4	8
Hemp	...	...	...	1	9	1	9
Garlic	...	...	...	1	8	1	8
Pan	...	...	...	1	2	1	2
				6	0	5	0

These rates were exclusive of the recognised abwabs, which amounted generally to an anna and-a-half in the rupee.

307. The crops mentioned are all by way of being special crops, but the high rates (per bigha of 3,025 yards) suggest that the general incidence of rents in these parganas at the time of the permanent settlement must have been considerable. For the same parganas the average rates as compiled from returns prepared in 1873 were:—

			Rs. A.			Rs. A.	
1st quality	...	...	2	8	recently to enhanced	3	0
2nd "	...	...	2	0	ditto	2	12
3rd "	...	...	1	0			
4th "	...	...	0	12			

per bigha, which would give a rough average incidence of from Rs. 4-12 to Re. 1-3 per acre, but as to what proportion of lands were held at different rates, there is no clue, and it is consequently impossible to make any comparison between the average incidence of rents in 1873 and now.

308. Generally speaking, the experience of attestation officers was that attempts had been made almost universally to force up rents during the 15 years preceding attestation, and though all illegal enhancements discovered were disallowed and the old unenhanced rents were attested, there were numerous cases also where the enhancement was legal and therefore allowed. Had enhancements, illegal as well as legal, been allowed, the general incidence of rents in Teghra and Begu-sarai would no doubt have been considerably higher. Considering the already high average incidence reached in these two thanas, it is a matter for congratulation that settlement operations came when they did to stop, at any rate for a time, further forcing up of the rent-rates.

309. In the case of Gogri, as we have already seen, rates are still generally low, and over a large part of the area the competition is still for tenants; at the same time the difference between the rates in the Srinagar-Banaili villages settled in 1887—1894 and the thana generally may be taken as some indication that the value of land is increasing, and that landlords are able to obtain rates for newly-settled lands which would not have been obtainable 15 or 20 years ago.

310. We are now in a position to compare the landlords' assets with the revenue demand of North Monghyr. To the cash rental have to be added the value to the landlords of produce rents received by them and of the lands in their direct cultivation and the equivalent of rent which they receive from tenure-holders for lands cultivated direct by the latter. For the first two of these items Rs. 6 per acre was taken as a fair average in Darbhanga and for the latter Rs. 3; and if allowance is made for the comparatively inferior produce of thana Gogri, I do not think we shall go far wrong if Rs. 5 and Rs. 3 are taken as the equivalent figures for North Monghyr. Had we been considering only the two western thanas, a very much higher figure would probably have been accepted.

On this calculation we get the following figures:—

	Rs.	Rs.
Cash rental	18,28,728
Produce rental of 38,847 acres at Rs. 5	1,91,735
Produce of area in direct cultivation of proprietors, 78,295 acres at Rs. 5	3,91,475
Rental of tenure-holders for lands cultivated direct, 21,948 acres at Rs. 3	65,844
		<hr/> 24,77,782

	Rs.	Rs.
Deduct for revenue-free lands—		
Cash rental ...	13,936	
Produce rental, 1,643 acres at Rs. 5 ...	8,215	
Produce of area in direct cultivation 1,452 acres at Rs. 5 ...	7,260	
	29,411	
Deduct also rental of Government estates ...	64,742	
		94,153
TOTAL ...	94,143	23,83,629

311. The diara area for which no record-of-rights was prepared covers only 6,865 acres; and as a very considerable percentage of this is uncultivated and the average rate of rent must be very small, its assets may be neglected. Including this area and excluding the area covered by Government estates and revenue-free proprietors, the total revenue-paying area of North Monghyr is 911,945 acres, and we get, therefore, the following comparative figures for incidence of assets and revenue:—

Total revenue-paying area, in acres.	Total assets.	Total revenue.	INCIDENCE PER ACRE.	
			Assets.	Revenue.
911,945	Rs. 23,83,629	Rs. 3,74,060	Rs. 2 9 9	Rs. 0 6 7

Thus, the zamindars enjoy 85 per cent. of the assets instead of only 10 per cent., the nominal share which was reserved to them by the permanent settlement. As we have seen, a large portion of Gogri was practically not settled permanently till as late as 1872, and if this was excluded from the calculation, the landlord's share of the assets would be at least 90 per cent.; and against this unforeseen result of the permanent settlement, the only set off which Government has in this district is the comparatively large area which was excluded from it.

312. The last road-cess revaluation of the district was concluded in 1896-97 and the assets then calculated for North Monghyr amounted to Rs. 24,80,228. This is very little in excess of the total arrived at in the calculation made above, and the difference is easily accounted for by the exclusion from our figures of the value of bazar rents, sairats and other miscellaneous sources of income, not strictly agricultural. Moreover, the revaluation in many cases included illegally enhanced rents which have been disallowed as not payable. On the whole, therefore, it seems probable that revaluation of North Monghyr would result in, at any rate, a small increase.

TRANSFER OF PROPRIETARY RIGHTS.

313. In Appendix D (VI) will be found a complete statement showing the nature of 876 transfers recorded in 311 selected villages covering 32 per cent. of the whole area of North Monghyr. Much of the excluded area falls within the big estates of Narhan and Srinagar-Banaili, and the figures may, therefore, be taken as fairly typical of the whole of the area owned by petty proprietors. In considering the figures, it should be borne in mind that only transfers which have occurred during the ten years preceding attestation were recorded, and of these again only transfers by sale are included in the figures given.

The villages selected contain no less than 41 per cent. of the whole number of entries of estates and pattis recorded in the khewats of the whole of North Monghyr, and of these, one in every five has been transferred in whole or in part by sale during the period covered by the enquiries made.

Beguserai returns the largest number of transfers, and here one in every four khewat entries is affected by a transfer; Gogri returns the fewest, and these affect only 1 in 6 of the khewat entries.

Altogether just under one-eighth of the area of the selected villages has changed hands through sale at least once during the last ten years: in Muzaffarpur only 6 per cent. of the area and in Darbhanga less than 10 per cent. had been transferred during the same period. Whether these differences point to a greater degree of improvidence among the North Monghyr petty landlords or not, it is impossible to say, but it may be mentioned here that in Gogri thana the figures are to a certain extent vitiated by the fact that they include the very recent transfer of one very large property contained in numerous villages from the original permanent settlement-holders to a rich banker and zamindar of Monghyr town.

314. The vast majority of the transferees are classed as zamindars:

Classes of transferees.

lawyers were the purchasers in nearly 13 per cent. of the cases in Teghra and 11 per cent. in Gogri, and men of the tenant class 14 per cent. and 11 per cent. in the same areas. The money-lender, pure and simple, figures most in Beguserai with over 13 per cent. and least in Gogri with 6 per cent. As these figures, however, relate merely to the number of sales and not to the area transferred, they throw little light on the actual area which has passed out of the hands of the landlord class into those of the lawyers and money-lenders.

315. The average rates at which purchases were affected vary from

Value of proprietary rights.

Rs. 56 per acre in Beguserai to Rs. 44 and Rs. 25 in Teghra and Gogri, and average only Rs. 38 per acre for the whole area transferred. In particular cases rates varied as much as from Rs. 673 per acre in Teghra to Rs. 2 per acre in the same thana.

From these figures it is not, I think, possible to make any inference as to the real value of proprietary rights in this area as compared with other districts; in many cases the sales are purely speculative; in others, fancy prices are given for small areas for sentimental or other reasons, and again in others the sale price is only the difference between the real or supposed value of the property and the amount already advanced on it in the shape of mortgages; any further discussion of these figures would therefore, I think, be of small practical value.

TRANSFERS OF OCCUPANCY RIGHTS.

316. Transfers of occupancy rights by sale and mortgage have a more

Record of transfers.

direct bearing on the material condition of the tenantry, and figures were, therefore, compiled for every village attested, and in respect of mortgages, at any rate, all transfers which came to light during attestation, irrespective of when they occurred, were recorded. Mortgages not carrying with them possession of any part of the mortgaged holding were, however, excluded, and, as a matter of practice, cases of sale or mortgage, when the transferee had entirely ousted the original tenant, and had been recognised by the landlord as a tenant in his place, would only accidentally come to the attestation officer's notice, and the vast majority of such cases therefore would escape record.

317. Complete statistics will be found in Appendix D(v) from which the most instructive are extracted in the following statement:—

Serial number.	NAME OF THANA.	TOTAL FOR THE THANA.		NUMBER OF TRANSFERS			PERCENTAGE.			AREA OF TRANSFER.			PERCENTAGE.			REMARKS.
		Number of tenants, holdings.	Area thereof.	By sale.	By mortgage.	Total.	Column 8 to column 3.	Column 10 to column 3.	Column 11 to column 3.	By sale.	By mortgage.	Total.	Column 15 to column 4.	Column 16 to column 4.	Column 17 to column 4.	
1	Teghra	78,287	92,887	1,161	2,028	3,189	1.38	2.77	4.35	1,457	1,708	3,165	1.57	1.84	3.41	
2	Beguserai	113,590	191,840	1,734	2,437	4,171	1.53	2.80	4.03	2,500	3,140	5,640	1.25	1.57	2.89	
3	Gogri	73,165	287,689	1,803	763	2,566	2.72	1.04	3.76	3,017	1,160	4,177	1.27	.49	1.76	
	Total	264,952	530,236	4,698	5,228	9,926	1.39	2.16	4.01	6,974	6,008	12,982	1.33	1.13	2.45	

In the district as a whole barely 4 in every 100 holdings are affected by transfers, and the area transferred is only $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the total area occupied by tenants with rights of occupancy. The percentage of area transferred is the same in Darbhanga, but 0 per cent. of the khatians were affected by transfers; in Saran 6 per cent. of the area and 15 per cent. of the holdings were so affected. The thana figures show considerable variation in respect of area, nearly $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. being affected in Teghra, just under 3 per cent. in Beguserai and under 2 per cent. in Gogri.

318. Of the transfers, considerably more than half were mortgages, the proportion of mortgages to sales being specially marked in Teghra and to a less extent in Beguserai,

while in the third thana, Gogri, sales actually outnumbered mortgages by not far short of 3 to 1. Those differences between the figures for different thanas illustrate better than the general figures the difference of conditions in this area and in the adjoining districts of Darbhanga and Saran. In Darbhanga as in North Monghyr the total area transferred by sale and mortgage was practically $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., divided almost equally between sales and mortgages; in Monghyr the excess of sales in Gogri results in the comparative figures being 1.32 for sales and 1.13 for mortgages. In Saran, on the other hand, where nearly 6 per cent. of the area held by occupancy raiyats was found to have been the subject of transfers, 5.61 per cent. was the subject of mortgages and only .17 per cent. of sales. To these figures I shall return when discussing the general question of free transferability of occupancy rights.

319. In the meantime the figures given in the annexed statement showing the classes to which the transferees belonged and the average prices obtained on sales or advanced on mortgages may be considered.

Serial number.	NAME OF THANA.	Total number of transferees.	NUMBER OF TRANSFERS.								AREA TRANSFERRED AND PRICE PAID		
			Landlord.		Lawyer class.		Money-lender.		Raiyats.		By sale.		
			Number.	Percentage of total.	Number.	Percentage of total.	Number.	Percentage of total.	Number.	Percentage.	Area.	Total price.	Per acre.
1	Teghra	3,189	519	16.27	107	3.36	596	18.69	1,967	61.08	1,457	97,109	67
2	Beguserai	4,571	772	16.80	92	2.01	448	9.80	3,259	71.30	2,500	1,45,054	58
3	Gogri	2,755	183	6.63	11	.40	394	14.30	2,217	80.17	3,017	1,00,574	33
	Total	10,515	1,474	13.94	210	2.00	1,438	13.68	7,443	70.78	6,974	2,43,737	49
	Saran	...	...	5.8	...	0.9	...	9.3	...	83.9	...	...	118
	Darbhangha	...	...	8.29	...	0.79	...	11.29	...	79.63	...	...	80

Serial number.	NAME OF THANA.	AREA TRANSFERRED AND PRICE PAID						HIGHEST RATE PER ACRE		LOWEST RATE PER ACRE		REMARKS.
		By mortgage.			By both sale and mortgage.			By sale.	By mortgage.	By sale.	By mortgage.	
		Area.	Total price.	Per acre.	Area.	Total price.	Per acre.					
			Rs.			Rs.						
1	Techra	1,708	1,32,607	78	5,165	3,29,716	64	2.3	180	4	15	
2	Beguserai	3,140	2,26,592	73	5,640	3,71,440	66	2.6	207	8	11	
3	Gogul	1,100	38,017	34	4,177	1,32,491	33	2.55	164	4	3	
	Total ..	6,008	3,97,916	66	12,982	7,40,653	57	2.05	267	4	2	
	Saran ... ..	...	...	93	...	...	91	...	...	...	...
	Darbhangha ... ..	...	...	39	...	...	37	...	...	...	...

Landlords and money-lenders figure much more largely as transferees than in either Darbhanga or Saran, and lawyers slightly more. The predominance of landlords as

transferees in the two western thanas is one more sign of the far sightedness of the petty proprietor in that area, who realises that it is to his interest to buy in tenants' holdings or finance them by means of advances on the security of their holdings with a view to ultimately treating the land so acquired as "kamat" and securing a substantially higher rate of rent for it: incidentally it may be mentioned that it is also one of the petty landholder's chief means of annoying and scoring off his neighbour, also a petty landlord, to buy in holdings within the latter's share of what was once perhaps their joint property.

In Gogri, on the contrary, where so many of the tenants are residents of and only temporary immigrants from other areas, it is only natural that sales outright should be more numerous than mortgages, and that so large a proportion of the purchasers should be the money-lenders, for land is there plentiful, landlords are usually comparatively big men, and the only classes that can really hope to profit much by the purchase of a raiyati holding are the raiyats themselves, the mahajan only coming in as a fairly frequent purchaser to protect his own interests and clear off the debts outstanding against the transferor.

320. In respect of prices North Monghyr, excluding Gogri, comes midway between Darbhanga and Saran, while the figures for Gogri are only slightly less than for Darbhanga. Curiously enough, though, as compared with other districts the average price obtained on sales is less than the average amount advanced on mortgages.

321. For this difference it is difficult to give any one reason which might not also apply to other districts where similar conditions prevail, but I think that Mr. Monahan is right when he ascribes to one and the same cause the comparatively small number of sales in thanas Teghra and Beguserai, and the comparatively low prices obtained in the same area where, as we have already seen, the rates of rent are at least as high as any where in Bihar, and the value of the land to the tenant in spite of the high rate of rent, not very much less. He suggests that the reason is "the difficulty that a purchaser experiences in getting his name registered by each of several petty proprietors and the fact that, if he does succeed, it will only be after paying a considerable sum to each in the way of salami." This argument might be applied perhaps with equal force to the "pattidari" areas in other North Bihar districts, but apparently if it does apply, e.g., in the case of Saran, there must be other counteracting causes which tend to bring up the sale price of occupancy holdings. In Gogri where the petty landlord is practically non-existent, the smaller number of mortgages is probably due, as we have seen, to the presence of so many non resident cultivators, and the small difference between the amounts obtainable on sale and mortgage to the comparative readiness, except in specific areas, of landlords to secure new tenants, by recognition of purchasers.

A further reason for the low selling price in Teghra and Beguserai may perhaps be found in the comparatively large number of cases where the landlords are themselves the purchasers, usually at sales in execution of decrees for rents of which they themselves are the holders. It is only the man who is very much in the know who would bid up the landlord himself at such a sale, and in the majority of cases where the landlord really means business, he is able to buy in at the amount of the decree.

322. Yet another explanation may be gathered from figures for the proportion of entire and part holdings transferred which are given in the following statement:—

Serial number.	NAME OF THANA.	Total area transferred			Area of entire holding transferred			Percentage.			Area of part holding transferred			Percentage.			REMARKS.
		By sale.	By mortgage.	Total.	By sale.	By mortgage.	Total.	Column 8 to column 6.	Column 9 to column 8.	Column 10 to column 9.	By sale.	By mortgage.	Total.	Column 14 to column 13.	Column 15 to column 14.	Column 16 to column 15.	
1	Teghra	1,457	1,708	3,165	835	438	1,273	42.12	61.43	25.61	569	1,270	1,839	57.88	38.57	74.36	
2	Beguserai	2,500	3,140	5,640	1,270	782	2,052	36.49	51.04	24.00	1,294	2,358	3,652	63.51	48.96	75.10	
3	Gogri	3,017	1,160	4,177	1,465	276	1,741	41.68	48.53	23.79	1,752	384	2,136	58.32	51.44	76.21	
	Total	6,974	6,008	12,982	3,636	1,490	5,126	39.53	62.11	24.60	3,339	4,512	7,850	66.47	47.66	75.10	

In the whole area 48 per cent. of the area sold consists of entire holdings, while only one quarter of the area mortgaged is of this description. The latter proportion varies but little in the different thanas, but in respect of sales the differences are considerable, Teghra returning 61 per cent., Beguserai 51 per cent., and Gogri only 48 per cent. of whole holdings sold. Now it will be admitted as a fair assumption that an average holding contains both good, bad and indifferent lands, and that if a tenant wishes to raise money by mortgage, he will ordinarily raise as much as he can on the smallest possible area, that is to say, he will mortgage first his best lands, and the rate obtainable for these will probably be a good deal in excess of what he would obtain for the holding as a whole. It stands to reason therefore that just as the mortgage rate for a part holding would ordinarily be higher than for an entire holding, so also will be the selling value, and the very fact that whole holdings are more frequently sold than part holdings will tend to keep down the average price for sales. If the Saran figures are compared, it will be seen that barely one-third of the area transferred by sales consisted of whole holdings, and the fact that two-thirds of the area consisted perhaps of the best lands out of tenants' holdings, accounts for the extraordinarily high average price there obtained.

323. Speaking of North Monghyr as a whole, it is a generally recognised principle that occupancy holdings are transferable, though the landlord reserves to himself the right of dictating terms to the transferee before recognising him as a tenant. These terms involve as a rule either the clearing off of all outstandings on the holding, or the payment of a *salami* varying from Re. 1 to Rs. 10 per bigha. To the general rule there are however exceptions, the most notable of which in this area is the Maharaja of Sonbursa, who habitually asserts his right to refuse recognition of a transferee on any terms whatsoever; he would not, I believe, ordinarily refuse to recognise a petty tenant who had bought another petty tenant's holding, but he declines to recognise any mahajan, lawyer, or even a big tenant of his own who so acquires another's holding. As a specific instance it may be noted that he successfully established this right in the Civil Court in a case where another large landed proprietor of Monghyr, Rai Kameleswari Prasad, had bought in a tenant's holding in Mathurapur, and claimed to be recognised by the Maharaja as a tenant. So fully established is this principle in the Maharaja's estate that not a single case of sale or even mortgage with possession was recorded in any one of the Maharaja's villages in this district, and, so great is the influence of example, very few in any of the villages owned by other proprietors in the immediate neighbourhood.

324. In the two western thanas a few instances were discovered where the refusal of the landlord to recognise a transferee led to a regular civil suit. In two of these cases indigo factories were the purchasers, and the cases ended in compromises in the tenant's favour. Another factory (Manjhaul) had made an attempt to keep out purchasers, but as the factory was only a joint proprietor, and their co-sharers recognised the transferees in every case, the result was not very conclusive.

In two other isolated villages the Mahanth of Dularpur and the Babus of Ulao had obtained decrees declaring that no custom of transferability existed.

325. On the general question of the advisability of legalising transfers it is unnecessary to enter at length here. So far in North Monghyr there is no very marked indication that the fact that, practically speaking, raiyati interests are negotiable, has led to any general transfer of the land from the cultivators to the middleman, and so long as the nature of the ordinary cultivator is what it is, and his necessity for advances so constant, the fact that he can raise money on his holding is an asset of considerable value, and an important factor to be reckoned with in considering what his real condition is. On the other hand, where sales are not allowed, this asset must necessarily diminish in value, as the money-lender's chances of realising his capital as well as interest are remote, and where the tenant cannot get advances in bad seasons or to meet special demands on his pocket, the natural tendency is for him to default, and for his holding to revert to the landlord. The debt may be so liquidated, but the best the tenant can expect, short of being altogether ruined, is to get back part of his holding at a higher rent from the landlords.

If free transferability tends to substitute the money-lender or lawyer for the cultivating tenant, and to reduce the tenant to the position of a tenant-at-will or a bondslave of the former, any restriction on transfers, while keeping out the middleman, is mainly to the advantage of the landlord and not of the tenant, whose rent is gradually raised to the highest point to which competition for land can bring it. On the whole, therefore, it would seem that the tenant has little to gain one way or the other, and that his salvation lies in some arrangement which would save him both from his money-lender and his landlord.

THE MATERIAL CONDITION OF THE AGRICULTURAL CLASSES.

326. The area covered by this report is, except for a very small block in the north of thana Gogri, more or less immune from famine. The main reason for this is that the winter rice crop is comparatively unimportant and that the tenants, not being dependent on a single season's crop but on two, are less likely to suffer from a failure of the monsoon. The proverb that it is an ill wind that blows nobody any good is specially applicable to this area; a late monsoon which elsewhere means the failure of the seedlings on which the ultimate success of the rice crop depends is usually coincident with a late rise of the Ganges, and the result to the cultivators of the long strip of North Monghyr bordering on the Ganges is a bumper maize crop. So also an early failure of the monsoon which involves the drying up of vast areas under winter rice coincides with an early subsidence of the Ganges floods and enables the cultivator to prepare the soil and sow early *rabi* crops, the money value of which is enormously enhanced by the failure of the rice crop elsewhere as well as by the fact that they come on the market in advance of general *rabi* crops. In the inland portions of the same area a comparative failure of the early monsoon rains is actually an advantage to the maize crop, and here, as in the diaras, an early stoppage of the rains gives an early *rabi* season, and as for his most valuable crops the cultivator relies as much on well irrigation as on rainfall, the comparative shortage of moisture is not very material.

327. Under these circumstances there is not the same necessity for an elaborate estimate of the food stocks in North Monghyr as there was in Darbhanga and other districts more liable to widespread famines owing to their being largely dependent on the single crop, rice. No special enquiries were made in this area to ascertain the average outturn of different crops, and the average cost of cultivation.

For the adjoining district, Darbhanga, Mr. Kerr estimated the gross average value of the outturn from an acre of land as Rs 37-14, and the gross average cost of the cultivation, at Rs. 14-15-9. For parts of Teghra and Begusarai, these figures are probably under the mark, as high cultivation of the more valuable *bhadoi* and *rabi* crops is the rule rather than the exception; on the other hand, in Gogri the crops produced are largely the cheaper grains, cultivation of much of which is rough, and the average outturn is probably not very high for the whole area. However, the figures may be taken as fairly representative, and, assuming that the ordinary small cultivator does a considerable part of his field work himself, it may be taken that the average net profit per acre to the cultivator is not far short of Rs. 30, and if from this be deducted the average rate of rent (Rs. 2-15), the net return to the cultivator works out at about Rs. 27 per acre:—

328. As we have seen the agricultural population of the district was divided according to the Census Return as follows:—

	Number.	Percentage to total population.
Rent-payers	1,069,277	62
Rent-receivers	23,718	1
Labourers	267,868	13
Miscellaneous (pasture and supervision)	33,836	2
Engaged on other occupations, but partially dependent on agriculture ...	24,490	1
Total	1,419,199	69
Total population	2,068,804	

But for reasons already detailed, the percentage of the population, wholly or partly dependent on agriculture in North Monghyr, is probably considerably in excess of that for the whole district, and it will be safe, I think, to assume that at least 60 per cent. of the population of North Monghyr, as in Darbhanga, consists of pure cultivators and others, partly dependent on labour and on other miscellaneous occupations, but who also cultivate. On this calculation, the population of North Monghyr being 1,041,879, we get 698,054 cultivators and 1,35,442 labourers who have to be provided for out of the 603,448 acres of land, which has been recorded as in the possession of tenants and rent free-holders. Taking an average of $5\frac{1}{2}$ persons per family, we have 127,010 families of cultivators and 24,626 families of labourers.

329. In previous estimates of this kind it has generally been accepted that the cost of living in moderate comfort is Rs. 15 per head per annum; the average family in North Monghyr would therefore require Rs. $15 \times 5\frac{1}{2}$, or Rs. 82-8. As we have already seen where the cultivator employs little or no outside labour, an acre of land will ordinarily bring him in an average of Rs. 30, so that the minimum subsistence holding is rather more than $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres. It may be assumed that an ordinary labourer's holding does not exceed this amount, for, if it did, the necessity for labour would disappear and he would be classed as a rent-payer or pure cultivator. It would, therefore, be fair to allot $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres only to each labouring family, and this will leave, on the calculation above given, 596,883 acres for 127,010 families of cultivators, which gives 4-7 acres each. An average holding of this size will give the family a net profit of Rs. 94, even if outside labour is fully employed, and where the whole or most of the labour is provided by the members of the family, the profit will amount to Rs. 141, or nearly 75 per cent. in excess of the minimum amount required for subsistence.

330. By a somewhat different process, Mr. Stevenson-Moore, in the report on the Sarhan operations, arrived at the conclusion that $4\frac{1}{2}$ acres of land in North Monghyr was a "subsistence" holding for a family of 7 persons, and that the actual average area held by each such family was rather more than $8\frac{1}{2}$ acres, which is equivalent to about $6\frac{1}{2}$ acres for a family of $5\frac{1}{2}$. As a matter of fact, in the selected villages for which a census of the agricultural population was taken, we found that the average area held by a family was considerably less than this, and that even the Babhan and Goala cultivators, who make up 40 per cent. of the cultivating classes, had average holdings of less than 4 acres.

331. As the calculations in both cases are somewhat empirical, it would hardly be safe to form any definite conclusion from these differences, but in any case, I think, it may be assumed that the average cultivator's family in North Monghyr has a fair margin beyond the mere minimum subsistence allowance, and any one who knows the area will readily recognise that without such a margin the effects of the frequent and disastrous floods would be felt much more severely than they are, and the vast sums of money lavished, more especially in the two western thanas, on litigation would not be forthcoming.

332. The same fact is borne out by the figures showing the extent of indebtedness; barely 4 per cent. of the raiyati holdings and only $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the area covered by them are affected in whole or in part by sales or mortgages with possession. The total amount of recorded indebtedness is under 4 lakhs, which represent less than one-thirtieth of the net annual profits of cultivation, or barely half-an-anna in the rupee.

333. The general position may be summed up thus: the cultivator in Teghira and Beguserai is well off in spite of high rents and extreme pressure of population on the soil, because the soil is highly productive, and specially favourable to the growth of the more valuable autumn and spring crops; in Gogri rents are low, but land is abundant and gives a fair return without any great expenditure of money in cultivation. In both areas the effects of bad seasons more or less counter-balance one another, and even floods which sweep away or ruin hundreds of acres of autumn crops have their compensating advantage in an improved spring crop.

CHAPTER V.

INDIGO FACTORIES.

334. In previous settlement reports for the districts of North Bihar the importance of the indigo industry was such as to justify the compilers of those reports in devoting a special chapter to this subject. In North Monghyr the same would have been the case had settlement operations been started a very few years earlier, as it is however, even when this area first came under survey, indigo was a dying industry and the figures of area held by factories and cultivated in indigo in 1901-02, when kharapuri was in progress, hardly represent even approximately present facts, for in the four years that have passed since then, the indigo industry has gone through troubled times, and few of the factories in this area have succeeded in surviving as such.

335. In 1901-02, however, there was still an area of 1,502 acres under this crop in the two western thanas besides a small area of 524 acres in thana Gogri. In the latter area there are only two indigo factories, and even before this their proprietors had turned their attention mainly to the growing of date, ry crops and to "zamindari," and at no time, so far as I have been able to ascertain, was the cultivation and manufacture of indigo a very extensive or profitable industry; in the following paragraphs therefore I shall confine or promark to the two western thanas, corresponding to the Beguserai subdivision where, as the figures already given show, indigo has, at any rate in the past, been an industry of very considerable importance.

List of factories existing in 1901-02. 336. A list of factories which existed as such in 1901-02, is given below :—

Factory.	Outworks.	Remarks.
Beguserai ...	... .. Teghra ... Barauni ... Nawada ... Jhamtia ...	Since closed. Ditto. Ditto. Ditto. Ditto.
Bhagwanpur ...	... .. Agapur. Surujpura. Kirtaul ...	Abandoned. In Darbhanga.
Daulatpur ...	... .. Meghaul. Ramnagar ...	Ditto.
Harrakh ...	... .. Masnadpur. Mahna ... Dhabanti ... Mati Hasir ...	Abandoned. Ditto. Ditto.
Manjhaul ...	... .. Bishanpur. Birpur. Garhpura.	
Sisauri ...	... .. Bandwar. Gamhtria. Kamalpur ...	Abandoned.
Nayagaon ...	... ..	Closed.
Sadanandpur ...	... .. Hitanpur ... Samastipur ...	Do. Do. Do.

Factory		Outworks.	Remarks.
Mangalgarh	... ..	.....	In Darbhanga.
		Malipur.	
Dalsinghsarai	... ..	.....	Ditto.
		Gobindpur.	

The area cultivated by or on behalf of these factories in villages included in the present operations exclusive of any area then under indigo in the villages of the Narhan estate (in 1896 this was 2,328 acres) was 15,026 acres, which represents over 4½ per cent. of the total cultivated area of the subdivision, the actual percentage in Teghra being 5.53 and in Beguserai 4.18, a considerable percentage, but very much less than in the neighbouring subdivision of Samastipur where indigo, in 1897, was grown on 8.18 per cent. of the net cropped area.

337. The total area cultivated by factories at the same period was 15,449 acres, or actually more than the area under indigo,—a fact which in itself indicates the decadence of the industry, as it shows that even at this time planters were beginning to substitute other crops for indigo, and had in fact done so to a very considerable extent, as much of the indigo in this subdivision is cultivated by tenants on behalf of the factories, and by no means all of it by the factories themselves. Thus in Saran it was found that one-quarter of the area sown with indigo was cultivated by tenants, in Muzaffarpur about one-third and in Darbhanga only about one-tenth. Conditions in North Monghyr approximate most closely to those obtaining in the latter district, and if it be assumed that here as there one-tenth of the indigo grown is grown by tenants, it follows that as far back as 1901, 1925 acres out of 15,449 in the cultivating possession of indigo factories were actually sown with crops other than indigo.

338. We have already seen that indigo-planters are the most numerous class of tenure-holders in this portion of the district, and in the statement given below, are brought together particulars of the extent of area held by them not only as tenure-holders, but also as proprietors.

Serial number.	NAMES OF THANA.	Total area of thana.	AREA HELD BY FACTORIES--								Area under indigo.	
			As proprietor.		As permanent tenure-holder and under-tenure-holder.		As temporary tenure-holder and under-tenure-holder.		Total as tenure holder and under-tenure holder.				Total as landlord.
			Area.	Percentage to column 3.	Area.	Percentage to column 3.	Area.	Percentage to column 3.	Area.	Percentage to column 3.	Area.	Percentage to column 3.
1	Teshra	Acres. 133,946	Acres. 1,021	1.21	Acres. 917	.69	Acres. 20,779	15.51	Acres. 21,696	16.20	Acres. 23,316	5.685
2	Beguserai	306,936	8,291	2.70	433	.14	26,324	8.58	26,757	8.72	35,043	4.18
	Total	440,581	9,312	2.25	1,350	.81	47,102	10.68	48,452	10.99	58,359	4.55

Altogether planters are interested as landlords in over 17 per cent. of the total area of Thana Teghra and in over 11 per cent. of thana Beguserai, or in 13 per cent. of the whole subdivision. In the neighbouring subdivision of Samastipur planters are interested as landlords in over one-fifth of the total area, and as the number of factories is just about as numerous in the two areas, the difference may well be considered as indicating the rapid decline of the industry in the short period covered by the four years which intervened between the survey of these two areas.

Two and a-half per cent. of the area is held by factories as proprietors and permanent tenure-holders or under-tenure-holders as against just under 3 per cent. in Samastipur, and rather less than 11 per cent. on temporary leases as against over 17 per cent. in the same area, while the area under indigo represents only 4½ per cent. of the total area held by factories as landlords as against nearly 8½ per cent.

339. The distribution of the area actually cultivated by factories from the point of view of land in which their interest is secure and that in which it is merely temporary, is shown in the following table:—

					Acres.
Secure interests.—					
As proprietors	...	...	...	...	2,400
As permanent tenure-holders	...	...	...	...	483
					<hr/> 2,883
As tenants at fixed rates	...	...	...	...	572
As settled and occupancy raiyats	...	...	...	...	3,268
As rent-free holders	...	...	...	...	13
					<hr/> 3,853
					<hr/> 6,736
Insecure interests.—					
On temporary lease	...	...	...	...	8,157
As non-occupancy and under raiyats	...	...	...	...	556
					<hr/> 8,713
GRAND TOTAL					<hr/> 25,449

From the above it will appear that of the area actually in their cultivating possession, factories have a secure interest, either as landlord or tenant, in 43½ per cent., a high percentage as compared with other districts (it is only 36 per cent. in the neighbouring district of Darbhanga), but one which would no doubt have been a good deal lower had not the decline of the industry led to the abandonment of all temporary leases which had ceased to be profitable at the lower prices ruling for indigo.

340. On the manner in which factories have acquired these different rights, it is unnecessary to dwell at any length. Proprietary interests have been acquired in the majority of cases either by chance or under compulsion; that is to say, until within quite recent years, the average planter considered it more profitable to be a temporary lessee than a proprietor, except, perhaps, of a share in a village or two adjoining the factory; in a few instances shares have been acquired at sales in execution of decrees for arrears of interest or on failure on the part of the proprietor to pay back the principal advanced as a loan on the security of shares held in lease. Permanent tenures are mostly small area leased from the proprietors or purchased from previous holders with the express object of providing a safe location for the factory buildings.

Occupancy rights have usually been acquired either through the fact of the factory holding lands in villages in which it had only a fractional interest as tenure-holder or by purchase of defaulting tenants' holdings.

341. Temporary tenures have been the planter's main stand-by; native proprietors were, as a rule, only too ready to find some one who would pay them something more than the average rent-roll of the village, and the planter by this means not only got a certain amount of land for indigo, i. e., the proprietors' *bukasht* lands for direct cultivation, and some percentage (usually 5% or *panchkatiya*) of the raiyats' holdings for cultivation either direct or through the tenants, but he also acquired local influence and opportunities for securing labour.

It was not to the planter's interest to enhance rents or harass the tenants in any other way, and hence, here as everywhere in Bihar, the indigo-planter as *thikadar* has been, as a general rule, the most considerate of landlords.

342. The area held by factories as non-occupancy or under-raiyats is inconsiderable, and of the latter, the greater part is held on the "kurtauli" system, under which, in consideration of an advance equivalent to several years' rent and interest, the factory is allowed to cultivate a portion of the tenant's holding for a limited period.

343. Of the methods of indigo cultivation and the system followed where the crop is grown by the tenants for the factory, a full description will be found in similar reports for other districts, and it is unnecessary to dilate on them here; it may be remarked however that in more recent years at any rate the system under which the tenant receives a certain fixed amount per maund of "plant" brought into the factory, having himself borne all the cost of cultivation, except the price of seed, was most in favour.

344. Speaking generally, the planter missed his great opportunity, when indigo gave large returns, of securing his position in the country by acquiring proprietary rights, and the opportunity for so doing at prices which would be remunerative has now gone. As a grower of country produce he has to compete with many, and he can ill protect his crops, without heavy expenditure on fencing and on subordinate staff, from the petty pilfering from which even the small native cultivator, with only a field or two to watch, suffers considerably. His salvation therefore seems to an unbiassed observer to be in the possibility of growing sugarcane, or some fibre crop suitable to the soil, in respect of which his advantages over the small cultivator may not be far short of those which he enjoyed as a grower and manufacturer of indigo.

CHAPTER VI.

CONCLUSION.

345. To what has been said in previous reports as to the village officials, more especially the patwaris and their duties and perquisites, I have nothing to add from the experience gained in North Monghyr.

346. As to maintenance of the records, so far as permanently-settled estates are concerned, the general feeling is, I believe, that a record prepared at such expense and with so much pains should be maintained; but from what has been said about the petty proprietor of the Beguserai subdivision, it is too much to expect that he will express any anxiety for any system of maintenance which will interfere with his opportunities for enhancing rents, and ousting his tenants when he can find others who will pay him better. The protection afforded to the tenant has, however, already been nullified in a considerable number of cases by the line taken up by the Civil Courts, described elsewhere, in dealing with claims to khas possession of kamat lands, and to payment of rents at enhanced rates; and though over a large part of the area the tenant is as litigious as his master, and just as anxious to do him out of his just dues as the landlord is to demand more than his due, I am inclined to think that the full benefit of the recent operations will not be attained, or be attainable unless the records prepared are revised at a fairly early date, and thereafter kept up to date by periodical revision at shorter or longer intervals. The arguments for such a procedure used by Mr. Kerr in his Final Report on similar operations in the Darbhanga district apply with equal or stronger force in North Monghyr, and, in the interests of all concerned, it is to be hoped that an early decision will be arrived at as to the procedure to be adopted.

347. As regards Government and temporarily-settled estates, the rules recently adopted for similar estates in Tippera seem to meet the case fully; the importance of regular maintenance in the case of estates under khas management is sufficiently obvious, and the history of some of the temporarily-settled estates in this district shows equally clearly that maintenance of the record is necessary, not only in the interest of the tenant, but also of Government.

348. I have elsewhere referred to the case of diara estates in which fair rents have been fixed for all classes of soil, according to their present capabilities, and it is not necessary for me here to do more than repeat that the record prepared has its main value as a basis for periodical revisions of rent rates, which, in the case of a purely diara estate, must necessarily be annual. To suppose that the rates fixed for a particular block of land liable on the one hand to be entirely deluviated, on the other to be more or less spoiled, or more or less improved by deposits of sand or silt every year, will be a suitable rate next year is to ignore entirely the conditions obtaining in such estates. To a certain extent the hands of the Collector are tied by the fact that settlement was made under Chapter X of the Tenancy Act, but, at any rate, a large percentage of the tenants were recorded as without rights of occupancy, and periodical revision of the soil map will make it possible to ensure that proper rates are paid for improved lands as soon as the tenant's rent can legally be increased. Moreover, the Collector has now the power to ensure that holders of large areas in the diaras shall not be allowed to acquire rights of occupancy, and that the full benefits of improvement should be shared by Government and the actual cultivator and not be allowed to swell the unearned increment of the speculative middleman.

349. In conclusion, I have to acknowledge the services of the numerous officers who worked under me and my predecessor in connection with these operations, and the initial difficulty presents itself that where, with perhaps a single exception, all have worked well it is difficult to select any particular names for special praise. The services of Pandit Rama Ballabh Misra as Assistant Settlement Officer in charge of the head-quarters office and in connection with the compilation of this report have already been acknowledged. For ability, thoroughness and unfailing capacity for work he was unsurpassed, and his place in the Settlement Department, which he left at the close of these operations, is one which it will be exceedingly difficult to fill.

Babu Nilmoni De has especially to be congratulated for the successful way in which he conducted recovery operations, the system for conducting which he has reduced to a science; in other branches of the work also he showed very considerable ability and common sense, combined with unfailing application.

Maulvi Ashfaq Hossein worked exceedingly well both as a khanapuri and attestation officer, and he performed the somewhat unpleasant task of testing a brother officer's work with special tact and ability.

Moulvi Ahmad Ali worked hard and, on the whole, well, though ill-health prevented him from showing his usual thoroughness.

Babus Hemanta Kumar Moitra, Khetra Bhusan Prosad, Charu Chandra Kumar and Rama Pado Chatterji were other officers who did good and useful work. Among the khanapuri kanungoes whose work was completed before I took charge, Mr. Monahan selects Maulvi Zahurul Hossein for special mention.

Mr. Monahan was the Assistant Settlement Officer in subordinate charge of the operations throughout the period during which I controlled them, and I owe him a special acknowledgment for the unfailing cheerfulness of disposition and unremitting zeal which, in spite of frequent ill-health, he showed throughout; besides exercising close personal control over all branches of the work, he displayed much common sense and sound judgment in tackling and dealing with the various difficult problems which from time to time came up. During my absence for three months on privilege leave in the recess of 1903, his management of the work was all that could have been wished, and as I have already stated, his help in compiling the present report was not the least of his claims on my acknowledgments.

Of Messrs. Lister and Gourlay who were in subordinate charge of the work during the earlier years of the operations, I am not in a position to speak from first-hand information, but I had many opportunities of noticing the thorough and efficient manner in which Mr. Lister, especially, supervised preliminary record-writing in the first two seasons, and the attestation of the more difficult areas in Teghra and Beguserai in the second season of the work.

350. Finally, I may be permitted to refer to the services rendered by Mr. Kerr under whose supervision the work was initiated, and who saw the task of preliminary record-writing and attestation through with his usual strong common

sense and thoroughness before the control of the work passed to me. I also desire, on my own behalf as well as of the staff employed under me, to acknowledge the unfailing kindness, consideration and help received from Messrs. Lyon, Allen and Maddox who successively held the post of Director of Land Records and Agriculture.

351. We are indebted also to Major Crichton, Superintendent of Provincial Surveys, for unfailing assistance in all matters connected with survey and preliminary record-writing, and to Mr. Oldham who, as Collector of the district during the last year of the work, took a strong personal interest in what was being done, and not only afforded us assistance, but made use of such assistance as we were able to give him.





APPENDICES.

APPENDIX B.

Name of officer.	Works on which employed.	Period of employment.	Days spent on tour.
1	2	3	4
J. H. Kerr, Esquire, I.C.S. ...	Settlement Officer ...	1st October 1900 to 18th April 1903	110
H. Coupland, Esquire, I.C.S. ...	Ditto ...	9th April 1903 to 8th July 1903 and 10th October 1903 to 6th September 1904.	52
E. Lister, Esquire, I.C.S. ...	Assistant Settlement Officer in charge.	26th October 1900 to 28th February 1902.	294
G. J. Monahan, Esquire, I.C.S. ...	Ditto ...	14th November 1901 to 21st May 1902 and 21st November 1902 to 21st October 1904.	270
W. R. Gourlay, Esquire, I.C.S. ...	Ditto ...	22nd May 1902 to 24th November 1903.	58
<i>Assistant Settlement Officers.</i>			
Pandit Rama Ballabh Misra ...	Attestation and supervision at head-quarters.	1st October 1901 to 30th September 1904 (except one month's privilege leave).	223
Maulvi Ashfaq Hussain ...	Decision of boundary disputes, attestation khanapuri inspection, case-work under sections 105 and 106.	19th to 25th June 1900, 14th December 1901 to 7th July 1902, 15th July 1903 to 31st March 1904, and 1st July 1904 to 9th July 1904.	369
Babu Atul Chandra Kerr ...	Decision of boundary disputes, khanapuri inspection.	2nd April to 2nd May 1901 ...	21
„ Bipin Behari Banerji ...	Decision of boundary disputes, attestation and case-work.	8th January to 6th May 1901 and 24th November 1902 to 31st July 1903.	331
„ Hem Chandra Chatterji, II... ..	Decision of boundary disputes and khanapuri inspection.	28th November 1900 to 6th July 1901	92
„ Hemanta Kumar Mittra ...	Decision of boundary disputes, attestation and case-work.	5th December 1900 to 6th March 1901; 3rd October 1901 to 19th May 1902.	311
„ Khetro Bhusan Prosad ...	Decision of boundary disputes, khanapuri inspection, attestation, and case-work.	25th March to 28th June 1901; 4th October 1901 to 7th July 1902.	361
„ Suresh Chandra Chakrabarti ...	Khanapuri and case-work	31st February 1901, 3rd April 1901 and 22nd November 1901 to 30th June 1902.	233
„ Rai Krishna Bahadur ...	Attestation ...	11th October 1901 to 26th May 1902...	194
„ Rampoda Chatterji ...	Attestation and case-work	12th October 1901 to 9th September 1902, and 17th October 1902 to 1st August 1903.	568
„ Abhoy Prosad Das ...	Attestation ...	10th October 1901 to 19th April 1902	180
„ Srish Chandra Basu ...	Attestation and case-work	12th October 1901 to 30th September 1902.	275
„ Satish Chandra Guha ...	Ditto and khanapuri	3rd October 1901 to 14th July 1902	232
Maulvi Syed Ahmad Ali Khan ...	Ditto and case-work	26th February 1902 to 31st January 1903 and 1st April 1904 to 30th September 1904.	302
Babu Charu Chandra Kumar ...	Case-work ...	5th May 1902 to 3rd July 1902 and 15th July 1903 to 30th September 1903.	108
„ Kuetish Chandra Sarkar ...	Khanapuri ...	5th December 1901 to 12th April 1902	87
S. S. Day, Esquire ...	Case-work ...	18th May to 13th July 1902 ...	44
Maulvi Mohiuddin Ahmad ...	Ditto ...	9th May to 30th June 1902 ...	51
„ Amiruddin Ahmad ...	Attestation ...	6th December 1902 to 17th May 1903	142
Babu Kandhji Sahai ...	Ditto ...	10th November 1902 to 11th May 1903	147
„ Nilmani Dey ...	Case-work, recovery, certificate and supervision at head-quarters.	2nd January 1903 to 30th September 1903, and 2nd February 1904 to 31st March 1904.	185

Name of officer.	Works on which employed.	Period of employment.	Days spent on tour.
1	2	3	4
Babu Charu Chandra Banerji ...	Case-work ...	20th April 1903 to 13th July 1903 ...	81
„ Suresh Chandra Deb ...	Final report ...	8th July 1904 to 30th September 1904.	
<i>Khanapuri Kanungoes.</i>			
Maulvi Zahurul Hossein ...	Khanapuri inspection and decision of internal disputes.	25th November 1900 to 16th June 1901, and 3rd December 1901 to 12th June 1902.	321
„ Abdul Rahman ...	Ditto ...	5th January 1901 to 9th June 1901 ..	100
Babu Kelikumar Banerji ...	Ditto ...	20th November 1900 to 17th July 1901.	216
„ Aghori Nath Mukherji ...	Ditto ...	20th November 1900 to 1st June 1901	182
„ Sashi Bhusan Biawas ...	Ditto ...	29th November 1900 to 24th August 1901	258
„ Hemanto Kumar Sen ...	Ditto ...	24th November 1900 to 30th May 1901.	179
„ Suresh Chandra Deb ...	In charge of office ...	23rd September 1901 to 30th September 1902.	17
„ Bishun Lal ...	Khanapuri inspection and decision of internal disputes.	1st December 1901 to 24th April 1902	142
„ Tirath Nath Sabai ...	Ditto ...	1st December 1901 to 23rd April 1902	140
„ Dharni Dhar Sen ...	Ditto ...	1st December 1901 to 6th April 1902	125
„ Dhanuk Dhari Lal ...	Khanapuri inspection and decision of internal disputes.	1st December 1901 to 21st May 1902	172

APPENDIX C (c).

List of notifications under section 3 of the Survey Act V (B.C.) of 1875.

Number and date of notification.	AREA NOTIFIED.		REMARKS.
	Pargana.	Thana.	
1	2	3	4
No. 3643L.R., dated 6th October 1899.	.....	Teghra and Begusarai.	For the survey of all the lands included within the external boundaries of Teghra and Begusarai with the exception of those which have been surveyed in connection with the survey of the Narhan Ward's estate.
No. 1519L.R., dated 19th March 1901.	.....	Ditto ...	For the survey of all the lands included within the external boundaries of Teghra and Begusarai with the exception of Narhan and Banaili-Srinagar estates that have already been surveyed. This cancels Notification No. 3643L.R., dated 6th October 1899.
No. 2238L.R., dated 8th April 1902.	.....	Ditto ...	Includes certain area in thanas Teghra and Begusarai that was dealt with during the survey of the Narhan Ward's estate.
No. 2457T.-R., dated 9th November 1900.	Pharkia ...	Gogri ...	General notification of thana Gogri.
No. 1520L.R., dated 19th March 1901.	Ditto ...	Do. ..	Excludes the Banaili estates that have already been surveyed.
No. 2702L.R., dated 21st July 1902.	.....	.....	For the survey of estates lying between the southern boundaries of thanas Teghra, Begusarai and Gogri in the district of Monghyr (on the north of the Ganges), and that part of the southern high bank of the Ganges which lies within the district of Monghyr (on the south).

Number and date of notification.	AREA NOTIFIED.		REMARKS.
	Pargana.	Thana.	
1	2	3	4
No. 1118, dated 27th February 1903.	Balia and Pharkia...	Begusarai and Gogri.	Includes certain small area that was dealt with under the Banaili and Srinagar survey.
No. 883T.—R., dated 21st May 1904.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Correcting mistakes in No. 1118, dated 27th February 1903.
No. 2428T.—R., dated 25th September 1903.	Pharkia ...	Gogri ...	In continuation of Notification No. 1118, Khalifaganj, Katghara and Arraria are notified.
No. 1817T.—R., dated 28th August 1903.	Ditto ...	Do. ...	In modification of No. 1520L.R., dated 19th March 1901, Rajdhan Barair and Gheruia Barair are notified.
No. 884T.—R., dated 21st May 1904.	Ditto ...	Do. ...	Correcting mistakes in No. 1817, dated 28th August 1903.
No. 2147, dated 2nd April 1904.	Ditto ...	Do. ...	In modification of No. 1520L.R., dated 19th March 1901, Modhopur Patpoo Gang Barar has been notified.
No. 4003T.—R., dated 19th December 1903.	Ditto ...	Do. ...	Cancels Notifications Nos. 1454T.—R., dated 9th July 1903, and 1520L.R., dated 19th March 1901, as regards English Timopur, Temtha Potpar Gang Barar, Zorawarpur Potpar and Chak Paryag.
No. 1584T.—R., dated 21st May 1904.	Ditto ...	Do. ...	Cancels Notification No. 4003L.R., dated 19th December 1903, so far as it relates to Chak Paryag.
No. 156L.R., dated 14th January 1903.	Salemabad, Monghyr, Somai, Sikahrabadi, Parhatpara, and Malki.	Surajgarha, Monghyr, and Shaikhpura.	For the survey of the Government and temporarily settled estates in South Monghyr.
No. 909T.—R., dated 23rd May 1904.	Salemabad, Monghyr, Somai, Sikahrabadi, Parhatpara, and Surajgarha.	Surajgarha, Monghyr, Shaikhpura, and Kharagpur.	Substitutes the statement for the statement notified under Notification No. 156L.R., dated 14th January 1903.
No. 9086L.R., dated 30th July 1904.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Correcting mistakes in No. 909T.—R., dated 23rd May 1904.

APPENDIX O (ii).

List of notifications under section 101 (1) of the Bengal Tenancy Act, VIII of 1885.

No. 2456T.—R., dated 9th November 1900.	.....	Teghra and Begusarai.	General notification of the thanas with the exception of those lands which were included during the survey of the Narhan Ward's estate.
No. 1521L.R., dated 19th March 1901.	.....	Ditto ...	General notification of the thanas excluding those lands which were surveyed during the survey of the Narhan Ward's estate and the Srinagar-Banaili Raj estate. This cancels Notification No. 2456T.—R., dated 9th November 1900.
No. 4358L.R., dated 20th December 1901.	.....	Ditto ...	Cancels the Notification No. 2456T.—R., dated 9th November 1900, so far as it covers six villages.
No. 2234L.R., dated 8th April 1902.	.....	Ditto ...	In continuation of Notification No. 1521L.R., dated 19th March 1901, with respect to certain small area which was surveyed during the survey of Narhan Ward's estate.
No. 2213T.—R., dated 16th November 1901.	Pharkia ...	Gogri ...	General notification of the thana with the exception of those lands which were surveyed during the Banaili survey. From this exception the nine villages, Ghordaur, &c., are excluded.
No. 1454T.—R., dated 9th July 1903.	Ditto ...	Do. ...	Cancels Notification No. 2213T.—R., dated 16th November 1901, so far as it excludes from the general survey and settlement operations in Monghyr, the Srinagar-Banaili estates diara villages, English Temapore, Joramarpur, Patpar and Temptia Patpar, Gang Barar.

Number and date of notification.	AREA NOTIFIED.		REMARKS.
	Pargana.	Thana.	
1	2	3	4
No. 2148L.R., dated 2nd April 1904.	Pharkia ...	Gogri ...	In continuation of Notification No. 2213T.—R., dated 16th November 1911, the village Madhopur Patpar, Gang Barar, has been notified.
No. 1117L.R., dated 27th February 1903.	Ditto ...	Do. ...	Includes certain small areas that have been surveyed during the Baniali survey.
No. 882T.—R., dated 21st May 1904.	Ditto ...	Do. ...	Correcting mistakes in No. 1117L.R., dated 27th February 1904.
No. 2427T.—R., dated 28th September 1903.	Ditto ...	Do. ...	In continuation of Notification No. 1117L.R., dated 27th February 1904. Khaifaganj has been notified.

APPENDIX C (iii).

List of notifications under section 101 (2) (c) and 101 (2) (d) of the Bengal Tenancy Act.

No. 157L.R., dated 14th January 1903.	Monghyr Surajgarha, Salemabad, Pharkia, and Masjidpur.	Monghyr and Surajgarha	For estates the property of Government in which revenue is about to be settled.
No. 908T.—R., dated 23rd May 1904.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Substitutes the statement for the statement published under Notification No. 157L.R., dated 14th January 1903.
No. 3095L.R., dated 30th July 1904.	.....	.....	Correcting mistakes in No. 903, dated 23rd May 1904.
No. 2178L.R., dated 17th July 1903.	Malki, Pharkia, Balia, Salemabad, Chandar Bhuka, and Chakai.	Begusarai, Gogri, Monghyr, Surajgarha, Sikandra and Chakai.	This notification relates to the Government estate lying to the north of the Ganges, and the Collector himself got these estates notified.
No. 2100T.—R., dated 14th September 1903.	.....	.....	Correcting mistakes in Nos. 2178L.R. and 2179L.R., dated 17th July 1903.
No. 1423T.—R., dated 17th June 1904.	.....	.....	Substitutes the statement for the statement published under Notification No. 2178, dated 17th July 1904, and cancels Notification No. 2100T.—R., dated 14th September 1903.

APPENDIX C (iv).

List of notifications under section 101 (2) (d) of the Bengal Tenancy Act.

No. 158L.R., dated 14th January 1903.	Samai, Salemabad, Sikahrabadi, Prabatpara, Surajgarha, Monghyr, Balia, Malki.	Shaikhpara, Sultan-ganj, Surajgarha, and Monghyr.	For temporarily-settled estates in Monghyr in which Government revenue is about to be settled.
No. 907T.—R., dated 23rd May 1904.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Substitutes the statement for the statement published under Notification No. 158L.R., dated the 14th January 1903.
No. 3094L.R., dated 30th July 1904.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Correcting mistakes in No. 907T.—R., dated 23rd May 1904.
No. 2179L.R., dated 17th July 1903.	Pharkia, Malki, Balia, and Salemabad.	Gogri, Teghra, Surajgarha, and Begusarai.	This notification relates to the temporarily-settled estates in Monghyr lying to the north of the Ganges. The Collector of Monghyr got these estates notified, and cancels Notification No. 2100T.—R., dated 14th September 1903.
No. 1424T.—R., dated 17th June 1904.	.....	.....	Substitutes the statement for the statement published under Notification No. 2179L.R., dated 17th July 1903.

APPENDIX C (v).

List of notifications under section 3 of Act IX of 1847.

Number and date of notification.	AREA NOTIFIED.		REMARKS.
	Pargana.	Thana.	
1	2	3	4
No. 3644 L.R., dated 6th October 1899.	For the survey of all the lands lying between the southern boundaries of thanas Teghra and Begusarai in the district of Monghyr (on the north), and that part of the southern high bank of the Ganges which lies within the district of Patna and Monghyr (on the south).
No. 2468 L.R., dated 9th November 1900.	For the survey of all the lands lying between the southern boundary of thana Gogri in the district of Monghyr (on the north), and that part of the southern high bank of the Ganges, which lies within thana Monghyr in the district of Monghyr (on the south).

APPENDIX D (i).

MILAN KHARRA.

North Monghyr (1,522 square miles).

THANA.	CROPPED AREA.							CULTURABLE AREA OTHER THAN CURRENT FALLOW.					AREA NOT AVAILABLE FOR CULTIVATION.			
	Bhadai.	Aghani.	Babi.	Total.	Dofashi.	Net cropped area.	Current fallow.	Old fallow.	Mango groves.	Culturable jungle.	Other kinds.	Total.	Horse sites.	Water.	Other kinds.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1. Teghra	57,744	22,748	77,408	137,900	37,012	130,378	427	3,577	5,427	31	5,156	14,191	2,435	7,028	7,323	16,784
2. Begusarai	113,201	59,812	150,850	323,669	88,646	235,823	2,808	11,117	8,699	658	15,109	35,483	4,137	32,406	11,852	45,398
3. Gogri	117,201	115,409	216,068	444,668	44,668	130,113	5,680	38,082	7,877	3,039	31,331	82,308	5,390	63,265	24,222	82,717
Excluded	580	125	501	1,156	254	902	9	154	53	...	35	240	13	18	13	42
Total	117,731	115,534	216,569	440,824	130,367	319,457	5,699	39,216	7,930	3,098	32,364	82,548	5,303	63,221	24,235	82,769
Grand Total	288,152	197,969	444,206	930,327	255,771	674,556	8,505	53,758	22,063	3,627	52,598	131,982	11,868	102,651	49,307	157,394
Excluded	580	125	501	1,156	254	902	9	154	53	...	35	240	13	18	13	42
Total	288,688	198,094	444,707	931,484	256,025	675,458	8,505	53,910	22,056	3,627	52,620	132,222	11,875	102,651	49,310	157,394

THANA.	Total uncultivated, columns 8, 13 and 17.	Total area, columns 7 and 18.	Irrigated area.	IRRIGATED AREA AND HOW IRRIGATED.						DETAILS OF IRRIGATED AREA AS REGARDS CROPS.					NUMBER OF WELLS.		REMARKS.
				Irrigated from wells.	Irrigated from Govern- ment canals.	Irrigated from private canals.	Irrigated from tanks and abars.	Irrigated from other sources.	Rice.	Wheat.	Other cereals and pulses.	Other food-crops.	Non-food-crops.	Masonry.	Earthen.		
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.				
1. Teghra	31,462	151,840	2,114	852	...	...	117	1,145	...	24	35	152	1,907	617	138	
2. Begusarai	86,634	322,307	921	170	...	...	150	601	164	26	80	104	567	1,418	53	
3. Gogri	140,025	490,180	14,438	536	...	2	1,478	12,422	10,369	550	1,275	388	1,856	1,028	309		
Excluded	201	1,193	■	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	■	...	24	
Total	180,916	509,373	14,440	658	...	2	1,478	12,422	10,369	550	1,275	388	1,856	1,028	309		
Grand Total	288,771	973,347	17,473	1,558	...	2	1,745	14,168	10,533	600	1,370	644	4,328	4,163	536		
Excluded	291	1,193	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	24	
Total	289,062	974,540	17,475	1,560	...	2	1,745	14,168	10,533	600	1,370	644	4,338	4,163	559		

APPENDIX D (i) a.

MILAN KHASRA.

Government Estates in South Monghyr.

THANA.	CROPPED AREA.							Current fallow.	CULTURABLE AREA OTHER THAN CURRENT FALLOW.				
	Bhadol.	Aghani.	Rabi.	Other cropped area, e.g., mungo, tea, pum, plantain, jayva, &c.	Total.	Dofasi.	Net cropped area.		Old fallow.	Groves not fruit-bearing, and bamboos.	Culturable jungle.	Other kinds.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.		Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.			Acres.	Acres.
Monghyr	7,857	5,797	13,135	...	26,259	6,880	19,409	67	1,166	...	...	855	2,001
Buraigarha	255	162	2,288	...	2,705	246	2,459	3	96	...	...	254	280
Shaikhpara	40	250	106	...	394	49	345	20	40	...	...	1	41
Total	4,053	6,209	16,627	...	29,366	7,175	22,213	90	1,338	...	...	1,090	2,323

THANA.	AREA NOT AVAILABLE FOR CULTIVATION.						Irrigated area.	IRRIGATED AREA AND HOW IRRIGATED.		
	House sites.	Water.	Other kinds.	Total.	Total uncultivated, columns 9, 14 and 18.	Total area, columns 8 and 19.		Irrigated from wells.	Irrigated from Government canals.	Irrigated from private canals.
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.			
Monghyr	201	7,134	2,164	9,499	11,567	30,966	76	...	...	...
Buraigarha	12	1,042	1,312	2,366	2,649	5,108	50	...	...	...
Shaikhpara	3	26	18	47	108	453	26	...	...	...
Total	216	8,202	3,494	11,902	14,314	36,527	215	...	...	...

THANA.	IRRIGATED AREA AND HOW IRRIGATED.		DETAILS OF IRRIGATED AREA AS REGARDS CROPS.					NUMBER OF WELLS.		REMARKS.
	Irrigated from tanks and khana.	Irrigated from other sources.	Rice.	Wheat.	Other cereals and pulses.	Other food-crops.	Non-food-crops.	Masonry.	Earthen.	
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34
	Acres.		Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.			
Monghyr	76	...	80	...	5	11	...	3	...	
Buraigarha	53	...	50	...	...	2	1	7	2	
Shaikhpara	86	...	56	2	13	3	12	...	5	
Total	215	...	186	2	18	16	14	10	8	

APPENDIX D (ii).

CROP STATEMENT (JINSWAR).

North Monghyr (1,522 square miles).

THANA.		CEREALS AND PULSES.												
		Rice.			Wheat.	Barley.	Jowar (millet).	Bajra (millet).	Maua.	Maize.	Gram (pulse).	Kodo.	Bahar.	Other food-grains, including pulses.
		(a)	(b)	(c)										
		Bhadai and aus (rains).	Aghani (or min-tari).	Boro or dala (spring).										
1	2			3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
	Acres.	Acres.		Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1. Teghra	1,097	6,891	...	13,627	8,324	3,277	477	5,319	33,329	12,049	2,147	13,867	31,144	
2. Begusarai	2,324	31,493	...	36,568	17,548	3,004	913	16,813	60,095	28,272	2,400	19,835	33,128	
3. Gogri	Settled	15,321	81,661	40,097	33,549	1,920	37	19,637	46,412	27,418	144	8,770	122,483	
	Excluded ... ..	...	...	120	83	...	...	...	21	122	...	...	753
Total	15,324	81,661	..	40,207	33,632	1,920	37	19,657	46,433	27,540	144	8,770	123,216	
Grand Total	Settled	18,935	120,040	99,282	59,461	8,201	1,427	41,789	139,836	68,639	4,691	42,472	195,735	
	Excluded ... ..	...	...	120	83	...	...	...	21	122	...	...	753
	Total	18,935	120,040	99,402	59,544	8,201	1,427	41,789	139,857	68,761	4,691	42,472	196,488	

THANA.	OILSEEDS.					SUGAR.		FIBRES.				DRUGS.		
	Linseed.	Til.	Mustard and rapeseed.	Others.	Condiments and spices.	Sugarcane.	Others (such as plantations of date trees).	Cotton.	Jute.	Sisal.	Other kinds.	Indigo.	Kusum.	Others.
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.		Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	
1. Teghra	1,803	37	1,651	2,395	5,970	340	...	161	8	53	26	7,218	63	...
2. Begusarai	6,057	83	2,906	3,595	8,074	725	...	99	11	19	97	9,822	69	...
3. Gogri { Settled ...	5,901	6	15,475	13,200	1,950	214	...	63	7	14	52	824	43	...
... .. { Excluded ...	...	2	8	23	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	5,901	8	15,478	15,223	1,951	214	...	63	7	14	52	824	43	...
Grand Total ... { Settled ...	13,741	126	20,032	19,411	15,908	1,299	...	323	27	86	175	17,694	175	...
	...	2	8	23	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Total	13,741	128	20,035	19,433	15,909	1,299	...	323	27	86	175	17,694	175

THANA.	DRUGS AND NARCOTICS.								Fruit-bearing orchards and garden produce.	MISCELLANEOUS CROPS.			Total.	Area cropped more than once.	Net area cropped during the year.
	Opium.	Coffee.	Tea.	Tobacco.	Cinchona.	Indian hemp.	Others.	Fodder crops.		Food.		Non-food.			
										Potatoes.	Others.				
	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41
	Acres.			Acres.					Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1. Teghra	4	...	...	3,436	...	...	...	...	480	100	11,501	87	157,990	37,619	130,378
2. Begusarai ... ..	...	...	...	1,185	...	...	...	...	644	72	18,415	83	323,669	88,046	235,723
3. Gogri { Settled ...	1	...	...	1,439	...	...	...	...	725	127	1,139	1,347	448,668	130,113	318,555
... { Excluded ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	14	...	...	4	1,156	254	902
Total ...	1	...	...	1,440	...	...	...	...	739	127	1,139	1,351	449,824	130,367	319,437
Grand Total ... { Settled ...	8	...	...	6,031	...	...	...	...	1,804	308	31,054	1,527	820,327	255,771	574,556
	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	14	...	...	4	1,156	254	902
	Total ...	8	6,033	1,818	308	31,054	1,531	821,483	256,025	575,458

APPENDIX D (ii).

CROP STATEMENT.

Government Estates in South Monghyr.

Serial number.	NAME OF THANA.	CEREALS AND PULSES.								OILSEED.			Condiments and spices.	SUGAR.	
		Aghani rice.	Bhadol rice.	Wheat.	Barley.	Narus.	Makal.	Gram.	Other food grains, including pulses.	Linseed.	Mustard.	Others.		Sugarcane.	Others.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1	Monghyr ...	816	680	3,371	2,300	9	4,463	3,004	2,983	12	621	645	46	...	...
2	Suraigarha ...	115	9	214	452	...	40	1,083	487	6	159	87	10	...	...
3	Shaikhpura ...	199	...	8	5	33	1	43	71	1	1	3	1	2	...
	Total ...	1,130	683	3,593	2,757	36	4,504	4,130	10,541	19	781	735	57	2	...

Serial number.	NAME OF THANA.	FIBRES.			DYES.		DRUGS AND NARCOTICS.			Fodder crop.	Kharaul.	Garden produce and orchard other than mango groves.	MISCELLANEOUS CROPS.				Total.	Area cropped more than once.	Net area cropped.	REMARKS.
		Cotton.	Jute.	Others.	Indigo.	Others.	Opium.	Tobacco.	Others.				Food.			Non-food.				
													Potatoes.	Yams.	Ganja.					
		17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35
1	Monghyr ...	1	...	...	...	2	1	7	...	...	263	149	2	...	...	...	20,280	6,880	10,409	
2	Suraigarha ...	...	...	...	...	30	1	...	...	...	3	6	1	...	...	...	2,705	246	2,459	
3	Shaikhpura ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	894	40	345	
	Total ...	1	...	...	...	41	25	7	...	...	266	165	3	3	21	...	20,988	7,175	22,213	

APPENDIX D (iii).

LIST OF TENANTS' AGRICULTURAL STOCK.

North Monghyr (1,366 square miles).

Serial number.	NAME OF THANA.	Cows.	Bulls and bullocks.	Male buffaloes.	Cow buffaloes.	Horses and ponies.	Calves, including buffalo calves.	Sheep.	Goats.	Mules and donkeys.	Ploughs.	Carts.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	Teghra ...	19,740	22,544	397	4,190	987	14,629	1,076	11,208	88	9,567	1,304	
2	Begusarai ...	40,467	40,085	770	8,702	1,735	29,324	2,525	22,313	49	19,005	2,867	
3	Gogri ...	52,904	51,711	418	7,271	1,852	37,058	3,435	18,225	16	21,674	2,558	
	Total ...	112,820	120,370	1,586	20,163	4,324	81,004	7,036	51,741	203	50,208	6,729	

APPENDIX D (iii) a.

Government Estates in South Monghyr of stock.

Serial number.	NAME OF THANA.	Cows.	Bulls and bullocks.	Male buffaloes.	Cow buffaloes.	Horses and ponies.	Young stock, calves and buffalo calves.	Sheep.	Goats.	Mules and donkeys.	Ploughs.	Carts.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	Monghyr ...	1,406	2,389	4	511	34	1,342	1	486	...	1,075	73	
2	Suraigarha ...	46	83	...	7	...	...	...	38	...	37	10	
3	Shaikhpura ...	75	70	2	26	...	23	2	26	...	8	...	
	Total ...	1,527	2,492	6	544	34	1,418	3	610	...	1,144	83	

APPENDIX D (iv).

ABSTRACT OF RECORD-OF-RIGHTS.

North Monghyr (1,535 square miles).

Serial number.	NAME OF THANA.	PRO-PRINTOR'S EIRAT.		HELD BY PRO-PRINTORS BUT NOT EIRAT.		IN CULTIVATING POSSESSION OF TENURE-HOLDERS.		RAIYATS AT FIXED RENTS OR RATES.							SETTLED OR OCCUPANCY RAIYATS.			
		Number of holdings.	Cultivated area.	Number of holdings.	Cultivated area.	Number of holdings.	Area.	Number of holdings.	Cultivated area.	Uncultivated area.	Total area.	Total of existing rent.	Average rate per acre of cultivated area.	Average rate per acre of total area.	Number of holdings.	Cultivated area on cash-rent and beigan.	Uncultivated area on cash rent and beigan.	Total area on cash rent and beigan.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
			Acres.		Acres.		Acres.		Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.		Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1	Teghra ...	2	9-7	8,033	14,770	1,310	8,748	371	340	127	467	768	1 14 6	1 8 0	78,137	89,806	6,588	95,791
2	Hoguserai ...	1	133	4,247	37,303	957	7,118	100	441	214	705	1,714	3 8 1	3 6 11	117,541	181,291	14,871	196,168
3	Gogri ...	4	169	1,480	25,814	836	9,012	98	603	88	690	525	0 13 11	0 12 3	46,334	276,095	20,868	300,983
	Total ...	7	619	14,520	77,676	2,028	21,949	606	1,443	429	1,871	3,005	2 1 4	1 8 8	252,332	546,692	42,314	588,936

Serial number.	NAME OF THANA.	SETTLED OR OCCUPANCY RAIYATS—contd.				NON-OCCUPANCY RAIYATS, INCLUDING DEARA RAIYATS.								RENT-FREE HOLDERS.			
		Area on produce rent.	Total of existing rent.	Average rate per acre of cultivated area on cash rent and beigan.	Average rate per acre of total area minus the area on produce rent.	Number of holdings.	Cultivated area on cash rent and beigan.	Uncultivated area on cash rent and beigan.	Total area on cash rent and beigan.	Area on produce rent.	Total of existing rent.	Average rate per acre of cultivated area on cash rent and beigan.	Average rate per acre of total area minus the area on produce rent.	Number of holdings.	Cultivated area.	Uncultivated area.	Total area.
		Acres.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.		Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.		Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1	Teghra ...	10,637	3,53,971	3 15 8	3 11 1	876	1,783	33	1,818	674	7,634	4 4 6	4 8 3	2,283	1,257	288	1,545
2	Hoguserai ...	15,138	8,70,079	3 11 3	3 6 9	1,187	3,134	449	3,666	536	15,673	5 0 0	5 6 6	2,617	1,060	686	1,725
3	Gogri ...	10,121	7,10,625	2 9 6	2 6 8	7,42	23,123	2,863	25,967	1,243	80,342	2 10 1	2 6 6	1,368	4,001	664	4,665
	Total ...	35,896	17,41,575	3 3 0	2 15 4	9,904	28,040	3,329	31,369	2,453	94,148	3 0 0	3 10 10	6,260	6,347	1,578	7,925

Serial number.	NAME OF THANA.	UNOCCUPIED.		KAISAR-I-HIND.	AREA OF VILLAGE.	UNDER-RAIYATS.								REMARKS.
		Number of holdings.	Total area.			Total area.	Total area of the village.	Number of holdings.	Cultivated area on cash rent and beigan.	Uncultivated area on cash rent and beigan.	Total area on cash rent and beigan.	Area on produce rent.	Total of existing rent.	
		36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48
		Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.		
1	Teghra ...	6,800	17,481	8,245	151,840	4,683	1,761	35	1,796	2,093	9,048	5 2 2	5 0 7	
2	Hoguserai ...	8,686	60,803	2,901	3,2307	7,010	2,137	76	2,212	3,020	10,562	5 2 1	4 16 3	
3	Gogri ...	3,027	131,951	7,312	808,697	5,071	2,536	95	2,631	4,098	6,267	2 7 1	2 6 0	
	Total ...	18,523	209,635	7,458	982,344	16,767	6,434	205	6,659	10,119	26,297	4 1 3	3 15 4	

APPENDIX D (iv) a.

Government Estates in South Monghyr.

Serial number.	NAME OF THANA.	PROPRIETOR'S ZIRAT.		HELD BY PROPRIETORS, BUT NOT ZIRAT.		IN CULTIVATING POSSESSION OF TENURE-HOLDERS.		RAIYATS AT FIXED RENTS OR RATES.				SETTLED OR OCCUPANCY RAIYATS.				
		Number of holdings.	Total area.	Number of holdings.	Total area.	Number of holdings.	Total area.	Number of holdings.	Total area.	Total of existing rent.	Average rate per acre of total area.	Number of holdings.	Total area, excluding area on produce rent.	Area on produce rent.	Total of existing rent.	Average rate per acre of total area, excluding area on produce rent.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
					Acres.		Acres.						Acres.	Acres.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.
1	Monghyr ... ..	...	...	13	641	8	438	...	...	...	...	1,747	11,097	...	28,171	3 5 9
2	Burajgarha ... ..	...	...	8	352	17	121	...	...	...	...	365	1,151	154	4,599	3 15 11
3	Shaikhpura ... ..	...	...	...	...	1	24	...	...	...	...	58	340	...	1,508	4 6 10
	Total ... ..	...	...	20	993	26	583	...	...	...	...	2,170	12,588	154	32,278	2 9 6

Serial number.	NAME OF THANA.	NON-OCCUPANCY RAIYATS, INCLUDING DIARA RAIYATS.				RENT-FREE HOLDERS.		UN-OCCUPIED.		KAISAR-I-HIND.	Total area of village.	UNDER-RAIYATS.					REMARKS.	
		Number of holdings.	Total area, excluding area on produce rent.	Area on produce rent.	Total of existing rent.	Average rate per acre of total area, excluding area on produce rent.	Number of holdings.	Total area.	Number of holdings.	Total area.		Total area.	Number of holdings.	Total area, excluding area on produce rent.	Area on produce rent.	Existing rent.		Average rate per acre of total area, excluding area on produce rent.
		18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34
			Acres.	Acres.	Rs.			Acres.		Acres.	Acres.	Acres.		Acres	Acres.	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	
1	Monghyr	678	8,634	5	22,803	...	12	22	164	9,684	2	30,906	272	709	153	459	0 10 4	
2	Burajgarha	131	308	440	938	...	2	12	28	9,624	...	5,108	14	18	11	89	4 15 1	
3	Shaikhpura ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	4	...	...	453	1	...	...	5	5 0 0	
		809	9,002	451	23,801	...	21	37	186	12,304	2	36,627	285	728	164	553	0 12 2	

APPENDIX D (v).

Transfer of occupancy rights in North Monghyr.

Serial number.	NAME OF THANA.	Total area of village.	Total area held by occupancy raiyats.	Total number of khatahs of occupancy raiyats.	NUMBER OF TRANSFERS—						AREA, IN ACRES, TRANSFERRED—			NUMBER OF TRANSFERS.				AMOUNT—		RATE PER ACER FOR LAND TRANSFERRED—		NUMBER OF TRANSFERS STILL HOLDING AS UNDER-RAIYATS—		REMARKS.
					By sale.		By mortgage.		Total.		By sale.	By mortgage.	Total.	Landlords.	Lawyers.	Money-lenders.	Raiyats.	Paid on sale.	Advanced on mortgage.	By sale.	By mortgage.	On cash mut.	On produce rent.	
					Whole holding.	Part holding.	Whole holding.	Part holding.	Whole holding.	Part holding.														
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
		Acres.	Acres.								Acres.	Acres.	Acres.					Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.			
1	Teghra ...	133,946	92,887	73,297	625	536	466	1,563	1,090	2,009	1,457	1,708	3,165	519	107	696	1,067	97,109	1,32,807	67	11	...	...
2	Begusarai ...	306,935	129,080	113,539	721	1,013	538	2,391	1,277	3,314	2,500	3,140	5,640	772	92	448	3,259	1,45,054	2,26,392	58	72	...	...
3	Gogri ...	400,219	37,689	73,165	457	1,555	121	612	552	2,197	3,017	1,160	4,177	133	11	394	2,217	1,00,674	38,917	33	34	...	...
	Total ...	841,100	530,256	259,982	1,783	3,104	1,122	4,506	2,905	7,610	6,974	6,008	12,982	1,421	210	1,438	7,445	3,12,734	3,97,916	49	66	...	...

APPENDIX D (v) a.

Transfer of occupancy rights in Government estates of South Monghyr.

Serial number.	NAME OF VILLAGE.	Total area of village.	Total area held by occupancy holdings.	Total number of khattians of occupancy raiyats.	NUMBER OF TRANSFER.					
					By sale.		By mortgage.		Total.	
					Whole.	Part.	Whole.	Part.	Whole.	Part.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Thana Monghyr.										
1	Sundarpur Shamilat	20.47	39.47	1	...	1	...	1	...	3
2	Zamindigree	5,244.02	110.26	41	...	1	...	1	...	3
3	Tarapur Diara	8,214.11	4,582.30	503	3	3	...	6	6	6
4	Kutlupur	12,891.11	4,901.62	445	3	60	...	14	3	76
	Total	26,375.64	9,623.65	1,030	4	65	...	22	7	86
Thana Surajgarha.										
1	Rampur	2.28	2.28	2	...	...	1	...	...	1
2	Do.	2.90	1.90	1	1	...	...	...	1	...
3	Do.	152.62	158.90	35	...	1	...	1	...	3
4	Chak Dunia	239.39	239.39	20	...	...	...	22	...	22
	Total	397.09	382.47	67	1	1	1	23	1	25

Serial number.	NAME OF VILLAGE.	AREA TRANSFERRED IN ACRES.			NUMBER OF TRANSFERS.				AMOUNT OF TRANSFER BY—		PRICE PER ACRES BY—		Number of transferees still holding as under- raiyats.
		Sale.	Mortgage.	Total.	Landlord.	Lawyer.	Money-lender.	Raiyats.	Sale.	Mortgage.	Sale.	Mortgage.	
		12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Thana Monghyr.													
1	Sunderpur Shamilat	7-23	3-43	10-66	...	...	...	2	98	36	...	...	...
2	Zamindigree	5-24	1-67	6-91	...	...	...	2	256	20	...	...	...
3	Tarapur Diara	10-31	14-71	25-02	...	...	...	11	1,100	1,143	...	...	...
4	Kutlupur	125-84	87-93	163-77	...	...	...	76	9,685	2,218	...	...	...
	Total	148-02	57-74	206-36	...	...	...	91	11,333	3,417	76	59	...
Thana Surajgarha.													
1	Rampur ... ..	...	1-11	1-11	...	...	...	1	...	58	...	...	...
2	Do.	1-90	...	1-90	...	...	...	1	100	...	...	...	...
3	Do.	0-42	0-63	1-05	...	...	...	2	25	14	...	...	...
4	Chak Dunia ... ..	...	36-24	36-24	...	...	...	22	...	4,475	...	...	...
	Total	2-32	37-98	40-30	...	...	...	26	125	4,547	...	120	...

APPENDIX D (vi).

Transfer of proprietary rights, district Monghyr.

Serial number.	Thana number.	NAME OF THANA.	Total area of village.	Total number of khewai entries.	Number of transfers.	Area transferred.	Percentage of columns 7 to 4.	Percentage of columns 8 to 5.	NUMBER OF TRANSFERS TO—				Share of land revenue transferred in rupees, if given.	Price paid.	Average rate per acre of land transferred.	Highest rate per acre.	Lowest rate per acre.	REMARKS.
									Landlord.	Lawyer class.	Money-lender.	Relig.						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
			Acres.			Acres.							Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1	1	Teghra ...	63,767	1,918	323	7,649	11.81	16.84	204	41	33	45	4,992	3,36,107	44	678	3	
2	2	Begusarai ...	112,303	1,885	437	9,241	8.23	25.34	304	5	5	10	8,528	5,13,383	56	243	3	
3	3	Gograi ...	89,420	661	110	15,289	17.10	14.37	91	13	7	7	4,001	3,82,341	25	232	4	
		Total ...	265,490	4,364	876	32,179	12.03	20.54	609	59	45	60	17,511	12,33,731	38	673	3	

APPENDIX D (vii).

Area statement (see paragraph 229 sqq.)

Serial No.	NAME OF THANA.	TOTAL NO. OF VILLAGES.			Total No. of holdings in settled village exclusive of shikrai holdings.	Total No. of plots in settled villages.	TOTAL AREA IN ACRES.			AVERAGE AREA OF A —				REMARKS.
		Settled.	Excluded.	Total.			Settled.	Excluded.	Total.	Thana in square miles.	Village in acres.	Holding in acres.	Plot in acres.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1	Teghra ...	516	...	516	58,912	333,984	133,946	...	133,946	...	240	1.6	0.5	Present survey.
		43	...	43	6,011	36,748	17,804	...	17,804	...	416	3.0	0.6	Narhan estate.
		559	...	559	94,923	319,012	1,18,840	...	151,840	...	273	1.6	0.6	Total.
2	Begusarai ...	655	...	655	134,460	504,625	306,935	5,672	312,607	...	473	2.3	0.4	P. S.
		10	...	10	4,036	24,904	12,472	...	12,472	...	1,245	3.1	0.5	N. E.
		1	...	1	379	5,832	2,920	...	2,920	...	2,091	7.7	0.3	Banali estate.
		608	...	608	130,365	535,267	323,307	5,672	327,979	...	488	2.3	0.4	Total.
3	Gograi ...	312	...	312	26,560	479,021	400,219	...	401,124	...	1,265	4.7	0.8	P. S.
		103	...	103	15,778	108,618	108,478	234	104,762	...	1,038	6.9	1.0	N. E.
		416	...	422	101,293	587,639	708,677	1,108	509,840	...	1,208	5.0	0.9	Total.
	Total	1,483	11	1,494	309,422	1,267,370	841,100	6,581	847,681	...	567	2.7	0.7	P. S.
		58	...	53	10,047	60,638	30,344	...	30,344	...	673	3.0	0.5	N. E.
		104	...	106	14,117	114,450	111,398	281	111,682	...	1,054	6.9	1.0	R. S.
	North Monghyr	1,040	18	1,053	336,584	1,442,612	982,944	6,865	989,709	515	590	2.9	0.7	Total.

APPENDIX D (viii).

Crop percentage statement.

Serial number.	NAME OF DISTRICT.	Percentage of net cropped area to total area.	PERCENTAGE TO NET CROPPED AREA OF AREA UNDER—								PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL AREA UNDER FOOD-CROPS TO—		PERCENTAGE TO NET CROPPED AREA OF AREA UNDER—						PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL NON-FOOD AREA TO—		REMARKS.
			Rice.	Wheat.	Barley.	Manna.	Maize.	Gram.	Other food-grains, etc.	Mixed food-grains, etc.	Net cropped area.	Gross cropped area.	Oilseed.	Sugar.	Indigo.	Opium.	Tobacco.	Other non-food-crops.	Net cropped area.	Gross cropped area.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
1	North Monghyr	69	21	15	9	6	21	10	37	7	120	91	3	...	24	...	1	5	13	9	
2	Darbhanga	78	61	3	9	13	5	3	20	3	115	84	11	1	3	...	2	...	...	16	
3	Saran	78	34	0	30	3	17	5	23	3	127	86	7	3	...	...	...	...	...	14	
4	Muzaffarpur	70	49	4	19	6	11	3	33	5	129	88	4	1	6	...	1	...	18	13	
	Champaran	70	...	7	15	1	8	3	25	1	114	82	6	1	7	...	...	...	...	18	

APPENDIX D (ix).

Thanavar crop percentage statement.

Serial number.	NAME OF THANA.	Area.	PERCENTAGE TO NET CROPPED AREA OF AREA UNDER—											PERCENTAGE TO TOTAL CROPPED AREA OF TOTAL AREA UNDER—		Total cropped area.
			RICE.			Wheat.	Barley.	Marna.	Makai.	Gram.	Other food-grains including pulses.	Miscellaneous potatoes.	Others.	Food-crops.	Non-food-crops.	
			Aghani.	Bhadol.	Total.											
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1	Toghra	133,946	4'19	1'02	5'51	12'42	6'18	4'18	20'73	10'03	33'06	10'03	5'19	89'00	11'00	141,043
	...	17,894	14'94	0'93	14'97	3'11	12'42	6'21	9'39	9'45	36'45	6'74	3'24	85'21	14'79	16,947
	Total	151,840	5'72	0'97	6'63	11'32	6'31	4'42	27'69	10'75	34'00	9'64	4'06	88'62	11'38	157,990
2	Begusarai	306,838	12'27	1'12	13'39	16'04	7'03	6'63	26'62	12'59	33'29	7'70	3'47	92'04	7'96	308,532
	...	12,452	43'02	'10	43'12	2'17	13'27	18'96	3'27	'41	16'01	12'00	3'37	92'05	7'95	11,421
	Total	322,207	13'36	1'07	14'43	15'52	7'46	7'14	25'50	11'99	33'22	7'66	3'43	92'62	7'90	322,650
3	Gogri	400,319	30'19	5'81	35'99	19'03	8'99	7'16	15'84	10'26	33'27	'44	'77	90'09	9'91	353,476
	...	909	...	...	...	0'10	11'20	...	'42	16'53	30'81	...	...	95'36	4'64	869
	Total	401,228	30'19	5'81	35'99	19'03	8'99	7'16	15'84	10'26	33'27	'44	'77	90'09	9'91	353,476
4	Begusarai	98,861	8'65	1'07	9'71	25'04	16'29	2'46	9'31	2'43	66'52	'22	'00	95'80	4'20	95,193
	...	284	...	...	...	40'42	6'92	...	9'57	2'31	93'62	...	...	97'62	2'38	294
	Total	99,145	8'65	1'07	9'71	25'04	16'29	2'46	9'31	2'43	66'52	'22	'00	95'80	4'20	95,193
5	Gogri	841,160	18'59	3'13	21'72	13'64	7'72	6'41	22'61	11'28	34'21	4'99	2'62	90'00	9'34	803,051
	...	909	...	...	...	0'16	11'20	...	'42	16'53	30'81	...	...	95'36	4'64	862
	Total	842,069	18'59	3'13	21'72	13'64	7'72	6'41	22'61	11'28	34'21	4'99	2'62	90'00	9'34	803,051
6	Begusarai	39,346	24'07	'06	24'13	2'71	12'76	11'27	6'57	5'87	25'59	9'18	3'20	87'98	12'02	23,368
	...	101,881	8'36	1'03	9'39	27'74	16'61	2'66	9'63	2'38	67'42	'30	'00	95'94	4'06	95,906
	Total	141,227	11'22	'06	11'28	10'23	12'76	11'27	13'30	9'22	46'50	12'48	3'20	91'96	16'08	119,274
7	Gogri	974,520	17'77	2'81	20'57	14'73	8'73	6'19	20'71	10'19	37'64	4'16	2'37	91'14	8'86	931,453

Serial number.	NAME OF THANA.	PERCENTAGE TO NET CROPPED AREA OF AREA UNDER—												REMARKS.
		Percentage of twice cropped area to net cropped area.	Percentage of net cropped area to total cropped area.	Oil-seeds.	Sugar.	DYES.		Opium.	Tobacco.	Fibres.	Garden produce and orchards other than mango groves.	Others.	Total crops, columns 20—28.	
						Indigo.	Others.							
		18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
1	Teghra ...	53'79	73'30	5'48	'31	5'33	'06	'00	2'83	'16	'34	'05	14'56	Present settlement.
	...	19'66	79'14	1'83	'20	11'17	'00	...	3'04	'59	'55	'26	17'67	Narhan Estate.
	Total ...	81'24	79'28	5'06	'30	6'62	'05	'00	2'86	'21	'36	'07	14'93	Total.
2	Begusarai ...	37'71	72'09	5'67	'31	4'18	'04	...	'46	'08	'27	'03	10'06	Present settlement.
	...	22'84	74'66	1'29	'34	6'03	...	...	1'20	'65	'22	'13	9'76	Narhan Estate.
	Total ...	62'12	78'60	'30	...	...	...	'13	...	...	'44	...	'87	Banaili Estate.
3	Gogri ...	37'36	73'11	5'35	'31	4'21	'03	'00	'50	0'10	'27	'04	10'31	Total.
	...	40'69	62'78	13'00	'00	'14	'02	...	'51	'05	'13	...	13'94	Present settlement (settled).
	Total ...	20'73	78'55	3'50	...	...	...	...	'14	'00	1'06	...	5'60	Ditto (excluded).
4	Begusarai ...	41'42	68'02	2'68	'30	'27	...	'00	'22	'00	'61	1'97	5'94	Banaili Estate (settled).
	...	56'38	66'20	1'49	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2'13	3'72	Ditto (excluded).
	Total ...	40'80	63'84	10'84	'07	'17	'01	'00	'44	'51	'23	'42	12'32	Total.
5	Gogri ...	38'10	60'14	8'80	'18	2'64	'03	'01	'30	'08	'23	'04	12'30	Present settlement (settled).
	...	20'73	78'55	3'50	...	...	...	...	'14	...	1'06	...	5'60	Ditto (excluded).
	Total ...	20'08	77'30	1'62	'26	9'14	...	...	2'31	'57	'42	'21	14'53	Narhan Estate.
6	Begusarai ...	42'10	68'32	2'61	'27	'26	...	...	'21	...	'61	1'91	5'77	Banaili Estate (settled).
	...	56'38	66'20	1'49	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2'13	3'72	Ditto (excluded).
	Total ...	37'00	69'31	7'90	'19	2'62	'03	...	'89	'09	'27	'23	12'22	Grand Total.

APPENDIX D (x).

Serial number.	NAME OF STATUS.	ATTENDED AT PRESENT.					PREVIOUS SETTLEMENT.				
		Tenancies.		Area.		Average size.	Narhan.				
		Total number of holdings.	Percentage to number of holdings of all classes, exclusive of gair-mazraa & Kaiser-i-Hind.	Total area in acres.	Percentage to occupied area.		Tenancies.		Area.		Average size.
							Total number of holdings.	Percentage to number of holdings of all classes, exclusive of gair-mazraa & Kaiser-i-Hind.	Total area in acres.	Percentage to occupied area.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	Proprietor's sirat (private land)	4	...	199	'08	49'75	3	'03	420	1'53	140'0
2	Held by proprietors but not sirat	14,716	5'05	76,710	11'63	5'21	49	'50	401	1'46	5'18
3	In cultivating possession of tenure-holder ...	2,664	'91	10,896	3'01	7'45	148	1'61	1,205	4'61	5'54
4	Raiyat at fixed rate or rent	647	'23	1,005	'26	2'63	11	'11	65	'23	5'91
5	Settled and occupancy raiyat	259,982	89'18	530,266	80'37	2'04	8,856	90'60	22,887	83'52	2'56
6	Non-occupancy raiyats, including diara raiyats	8,000	2'74	26,801	4'06	3'35	408	4'17	2,148	7'87	5'24
7	Rent-free holders	5,550	1'90	4,199	'64	'76	308	3'08	215	'78	'71
	Total	291,583	...	659,746	...	2'26	9,777	...	27,401	...	2'81
1	Unoccupied crown land ... ..	...	...	7,922	...	...	...	...	201	...	...
2	Landlord's gairmazraa or wasteland	17,897	...	174,183	...	...	270	...	2,744	...	...
	Total of unoccupied land	17,897	...	181,354	...	...	270	...	2,945	...	...
	GRAND TOTAL	309,480	...	841,100	...	...	10,047	...	30,346	...	...
	Under-raiyats	15,703	6'04	15,473	2'02	'99	1,004	11'34	1,305	5'70	1'80

Serial number.	NAME OF STATUS.	PREVIOUS SETTLEMENT.					TOTAL.					REMARKS.
		Banaili.					Tenancies.		Area.		Average size.	
		Tenancies.		Area.		Total number of holdings.	Percentage to number of holdings of all classes, exclusive of gair-mazra & Kaiser-i-Hind.	Total area in acres.	Percentage.			
		Total number of holdings.	Percentage to number of holdings of all classes, exclusive of gair-mazra & Kaiser-i-Hind.	Total area in acres.	Percentage.							
		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
1	Proprietor's sirat (private land) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	7	'02	619	'08	83'43	
2	Held by proprietor's but not sirat	55	'36	565	'69	1'27	14,820	4'68	77,676	10'10	5'24	
3	In cultivating possession of tenure-holder ...	11	'07	797	'98	7'24	2,823	'89	21,948	2'87	7'77	
4	Raiyat at fixed rate or rent	8	'05	111	'14	13'87	666	'21	1,871	'24	2'81	
5	Settled and occupancy raiyat	13,494	87'33	71,097	87'91	5'27	232,333	89'12	624,530	81'28	2'21	
6	Non-occupancy raiyats, including diara raiyats	1,406	9'68	4,873	5'97	3'26	9,004	3'12	33,822	4'40	3'41	
7	Rent free-holders	358	2'51	3,511	4'31	9'05	6,240	1'96	7,925	1'03	1'27	
	Total	15,452	...	81,544	...	5'29	310,792	...	768,691	...	2'43	
1	Unoccupied crown land ... ..	...	...	34	...	...	...	...	7,458	...	...
2	Landlord's gair mazra or waste land	656	...	29,819	...	...	18,823	...	206,095	...	...
	Total of unoccupied land	656	...	29,854	...	...	18,823	...	213,553	...	...
	GRAND TOTAL	2,108	...	111,398	...	...	335,615	...	982,244	...	...
	Under-riyats ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	16,707	5'92	16,778	2'69	1'00	

IV

APPENDIX D (xi).

Serial number.	NAME OF THANA.	Total number of holding in occupied area.	Total occupied area in acre.	ZIRAT.					HELD BY PROPRIETOR BUT NOT ZIRAT.				
				number of holding.	Percentage to column 3.	Area.	Percentage to column 4.	Average size of holding.	Number of holding.	Percentage to column 3.	Area.	Percentage to column 4.	Average size.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	Toghra	82,003	115,322	...	.....	...	.....	.....	5,450	6'12	14,461	12'56	8'86
		5,820	16,422	3	'03	287	1'74	143'50	43	'74	379	1'09	6'49
	Total ...	88,423	131,744	3	'03	287	'21	143'50	5,093	5'76	14,770	11'21	8'89
2	Begusarai	126,346	249,170	...	.....	...	.....	.....	8,241	6'52	37,340	14'96	4'03
		3,957	10,979	1	'03	133	1'21	133'0	6	16	122	1'11	20'33
		366	2,364	...	.....	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	.....	.....
	Total ...	130,669	262,513	1	.....	133	'06	133'0	8,247	6'31	37,362	14'36	4'63
3	Gogri	82,014	295,254	4	...	199	'06	49'75	1,425	1'78	24,979	8'47	17'53
		15,086	79,180	...	.....	...	.....	.....	55	'37	565	'71	10'27
	Total ...	97,700	374,434	4	...	199	'06	49'75	1,480	1'51	25,544	8'83	17'26
	Total ..	201,563	629,746	4	...	199	'03	49'75	14,716	5'05	76,710	11'63	5'21
		9,777	27,401	3	'03	420	1'53	140'0	49	'50	401	1'46	8'18
		15,452	51,545	...	.....	...	.....	.....	55	'36	565	'69	1'27
	GRAND TOTAL ...	310,792	768,691	7	'02	619	'08	88'43	14,820	4'63	77,676	10'10	5'24

Serial number.	NAME OF THANA.	IN CULTIVATING POSSESSION OF TENURE-HOLDER.					TOTAL.					REMARKS.	
		Number of holding.	Percentage to column 3.	Area.	Percentage to column 4.	Average size.	Number of holding.	Percentage to column 3.	Area.	Percentage to column 4.	Average size.		
		15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
1	Toghra	1,200	1'45	4,844	4'21	4'03	6,220	7'57	19,335	16'77	3'09	Present Settlement.	
		110	1'39	904	5'52	8'21	155	2'66	1,470	8'96	9'43	Narhan.	
		Total ...	1,310	1'47	5,748	4'36	4'38	6,405	7'24	20,805	15'78	3'24	Total.
	2	Begusarai	919	'78	6,827	2'74	7'43	9,160	7'25	44,067	17'69	4'81	Present Settlement.
88			'06	361	3'29	9'50	45	1'14	616	5'61	13'63	Narhan.	
...			.....	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	.....	.....	Banaili.
Total ...		957	'73	7,168	2'61	7'51	9,205	7'04	44,683	17'03	4'85	Total.	
3	Gogri	545	'66	8,215	2'78	15'07	1,974	2'39	33,393	11'31	16'91	Present Settlement.	
		11	'07	737	1'01	72'45	66	'44	1,362	1'73	20'64	Banaili.	
		Total ...	556	'56	9,013	2'40	16'20	2,040	2'09	34,755	9'28	17'03	Total.
		Total ...	2,664	'91	19,836	3'01	7'45	17,334	5'96	96,795	14'67	5'56	Present Settlement.
		148	1'51	1,263	4'61	8'54	200	2'04	2,086	7'60	1'43	Narhan.	
	11	'07	717	'98	7'24	66	'43	1,362	1'67	20'64	Banaili.		
TOTAL ...		2,823	'89	21,949	2'87	7'77	17,650	5'59	100,243	13'05	5'67	Total.	

APPENDIX D (xii).

Serial number.	NAME OF THANA.	Raiyati holding.	Total occupied area.	RAIYATS AT FIXED RATE.					SETTLED AND OCCUPANCY RAIYATS.					NON OCCUPANCY RAIYATS.				
				Number of holding.	Per cent. to column 5.	Area.	Per cent. to column 4.	Average size.	Number of holding.	Per cent. to column 2.	Area.	Per cent. to column 4.	Average size.	Number of holding.	Per cent. to column 3.	Area.	Per cent. to column 4.	Average size.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
1	Teghra ...	82,003	115,322	360	'44	458'	'40	1'25	73,237	88'73	92,887	80'55	1'27	521	'03	1,216	1'04	2'33
		5,820	16,422	5	'09	18'	'11	3'60	5,150	88'49	13,541	82'46	2'63	354	6'08	1,274	7'76	3'60
	Total ...	88,423	131,744	371	'42	476'	'36	1'24	78,437	89'71	106,428	80'79	1'36	875	'99	2,490	1'59	2'35
2	Beguserai ...	120,846	249,170	193	'15	658'	'26	3'41	113,530	89'56	199,680	80'14	1'76	1,113	'88	3,201	1'28	2'88
		3,957	10,979	6	'15	47'	'43	7'83	3,706	83'66	9,346	55'13	2'32	54	1'36	874	7'96	16'19
	Total ...	124,803	260,149	199	'15	705'	'27	3'54	117,236	89'97	209,026	80'49	1'80	1,167	'91	4,102	1'56	3'45
3	Gogri ...	62,614	295,254	■	'11	579'	'20	6'18	73,165	83'56	237,080	80'50	3'25	6,366	7'70	22,384	7'58	3'52
		15,056	79,180	8	'05	111'	'14	13'87	13,169	87'30	61,415	87'67	5'37	1,476	9'78	4,846	6'12	3'28
	Total ...	77,670	374,434	96	'10	690'	'19	7'19	86,334	88'36	307,104	89'02	3'55	7,842	8'03	27,230	7'27	3'47
	Total ...	291,683	659,746	647	'22	1,695'	'26	2'62	250, 82	89'18	530,256	80'37	2'04	8,000	2'74	26,801	4'06	3'35
		9,777	27,401	11	'11	'65	'23	5'91	8,336	90'60	22,867	83'52	2'68	408	4'17	2,148	7'67	5'24
		15,453	81,544	8	'05	111'	'14	13'67	15,434	87'38	71,657	87'91	5'27	1,496	9'18	4,873	5'97	3'26
GRAND TOTAL ...		310,792	708,691	686	0'21	1,871'	'24	2'81	233,332	89'12	624,830	81'28	2'21	9,904	3'19	33,822	4'40	3'41

Serial number.	NAME OF THANA.	RENT-FREE HOLDERS.					TOTAL.					SHIKMI.					REMARKS.
		Number of holding.	Per cent. to column 2.	Area.	Per cent. to column 4.	Average size.	Number of holding.	Per cent. to column 3.	Area.	Per cent. to column 4.	Average size.	Number of holding.	Per cent. to column 3.	Area.	Per cent. to column 4.	Average size.	
		20	21	22	■	■	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	■	35
1	Teghra ...	2,179	2'64	1,420	1'24	'66	78,353	92'43	95,987	83'23	1'26	4,113	5'61	2,985	3'21	'73	P. S.
		150	2'68	119	'72	'76	5,855	97'34	14,952	91'05	2'63	510	9'90	903	6'67	1'77	N.
	Total ...	2,335	2'64	1,545	1'17	'66	82,018	92'76	110,939	84'21	1'35	4,623	5'89	3,888	3'65	'84	Total.
2	Beguserai ...	2,350	1'86	1,564	'68	'67	117,186	92'75	205,103	82'31	1'75	6,516	5'74	5,739	2'87	'68	P. S.
		146	3'69	96	'81	'66	3,912	93'86	10,363	94'39	2'65	404	13'33	402	4'31	'81	N.
	Total ...	2,496	1'86	1,660	2'75	3'10	121,108	92'76	215,466	82'31	1'75	7,010	5'96	6,141	2'91	'68	Total.
3	Gogri ...	1,021	1'24	1,209	'41	1'18	80,040	97'61	201,861	88'69	3'25	5,674	6'93	6,740	2'84	1'33	P. S.
		367	2'43	3,446	4'35	9'39	15,020	90'56	77,518	98'28	5'11	...	...	...	...	...	B.
	Total ...	1,388	1'42	4,655	1'24	3'85	95,060	97'91	279,379	90'72	3'56	5,674	5'88	6,740	2'20	1'33	Total.
	Total ...	5,580	1'90	4,199	'64	'76	234,179	94'04	562,951	85'33	2'05	15,703	6'04	15,473	2'92	'99	P. S.
		302	3'08	215	'78	'71	9,577	97'96	25,315	92'40	2'64	1,604	11'34	1,306	5'70	1'30	N.
		368	2'61	3,511	4'31	9'05	15,386	90'57	80,152	98'33	5'21	...	...	...	...	...	B.
GRAND TOTAL ...		6,240	1'96	7,925	1'03	1'27	290,143	94'41	683,448	86'05	2'23	18,707	5'92	16,778	2'69	1'09	GRAND TOTAL.

APPENDIX E (i).

Detailed statement of 103 A classification Thanawar.

Serial number.	NAME OF THANA.	Total number of cases.	ZIRAT vs. BAKASHT.		POSSESSION.								MONEY RENT DISPUTE.			
			Landlord vs. Landlord.		Landlord vs. Raiyat.		Raiyat vs. Landlord.		Raiyat vs. Raiyat.				Landlord vs. Raiyat.		Raiyat vs. Landlord.	
			Allowed.	Disallowed.	Allowed.	Disallowed.	Allowed.	Disallowed.	Allowed.	Disallowed.	Allowed.	Disallowed.	Allowed.	Disallowed.	Allowed.	Disallowed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1	Teghra	0,836	...	3	481	964	186	961	113	325	186	650	828	731	101	381
	Allowed	1,840	...	...	907								330			
	Disallowed	4,996	...	3	3,880								1,018			
2	Begusarai	9,316	...	9	414	1,205	197	714	130	276	330	789	511	1,773	238	731
	Allowed	2,438	...	...	1,091								740			
	Disallowed	6,880	...	9	3,024								2,509			
3	Monghyr	438	...	...	...	9	26	38	14	24	98	50	6	1	2	1
	Allowed	225	...	...	185								8			
	Disallowed	313	...	...	121								3			
4	Sarajgarha	54	...	...	...	4	...	5	7	1	1	16	...	...	...	20
	Allowed	8	...	...	8								...			
	Disallowed	46	...	...	26								20			
5	Gogri	5,784	...	32	151	103	102	138	70	137	103	811	346	1,775	813	334
	Allowed	1,046	...	...	820								659			
	Disallowed	4,138	...	32	759								2,109			
	GRAND TOTAL ...	22,427	...	45	1,079	2,440	510	1,854	332	763	805	1,745	1,093	4,369	654	1,329
	Allowed	6,154	...	...	2,726								1,746			
	Disallowed	16,273	...	45	6,803								5,658			

Serial number.	NAME OF THANA.	PRODUCE RENT.				STATUS.				TITLES.		TENSES.		RE-MEMORANDUM.		REMARKS.
		Landlord vs. Raiyat.		Raiyat vs. Landlord.		Landlord vs. Raiyat.		Raiyat vs. Landlord.								
		Allowed.	Disallowed.	Allowed.	Disallowed.	Allowed.	Disallowed.	Allowed.	Disallowed.	Allowed.	Disallowed.	Allowed.	Disallowed.			
		18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
1	Teghra	107	340	23	70	71	136	75	187	134	221	118	109	15	27	
	Allowed	136				140				134		113		15		
	Disallowed	413				328				221		109		27		
2	Begusarai	1,131	311	49	105	33	180	70	224	200	373	111	122	19	17	
	Allowed	170				109				209		88		19		
	Disallowed	416				610				373		133		17		
3	Monghyr			9	1	8	63	48	53					17	2	
	Allowed	1				58								17		
	Disallowed	1				87								2		
4	Sarajgarha															
	Allowed															
	Disallowed															
5	Gogri	39	15	9	10	53	339	173	714	63	140	111	65	31	12	
	Allowed	48				326				63		64		31		
	Disallowed	25				1,003				140		65		12		
	GRAND TOTAL	207	666	95	191	166	674	373	1,140	426	734	235	296	73	38	
	Allowed	363				637				426		235		73		
	Disallowed	303				1,323				734		306		38		

APPENDIX E (ii).

Statement of section 105 cases.

Serial number.	NAME OF THANA.	Total number of cases.	Number of holdings concerned.	EXISTING RENT OF THE HOLDINGS SUD UNDER					FAIR RENT SETTLED.				NUMBER OF HOLDINGS FOR WHICH NEW RENTS WERE SETTLED.			
				Section 52A.	Section 52B.	Section 30.	Sections 30 and 52, 60th.	Total.	After contest.	On non-promise.	Ex parte.	Total.	After contest.	On compromise.	Ex parte.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1	Teghra	105	2,278	24,919 1 14	Rs. A. P. 328 6 74	Rs. A. P. 558 11 6	Rs. A. P. 1,281 18 9	Rs. A. P. 23,823 4 14	Rs. A. P. 14,788 5 3	Rs. A. P. 10,960 8 9	Rs. A. P. 24,743 11 9	132	356	8	493	
	Begusarai	141	2,225	25,311 10 14	399 18 74	558 11 6	1,281 18 9	27,658 8 0	23,413 15 104	6,507 4 14	43 9 0	23,008 13 0	122	51	529	
	Gogri	232	1,512	2,950 9 6	1,667 5 8	303 11 9	18,788 3 54	23,788 14 94	2,614 11 14	13,836 8 04	1,498 18 0	24,988 0 8	404	91	469	
	Total	478	6,810	50,481 4 9	3,395 11 9	981 7 5	30,746 15 7	77,168 3 4	40,814 1 3	30,414 3 5	3,537 6 9	79,715 11 5	658	1,438	96	9,191

Serial number.	NAME OF THANA.	NUMBER OF HOLDINGS IN WHICH PRESENT RENTS WERE FIXED AS FAIR.				NUMBER OF HOLDINGS FOR WHICH NO RENT HAS BEEN FIXED.				AMOUNT OF ENHANCEMENT.			Amount reduced under section 52 (b).	NUMBER OF HOLDINGS IN WHICH RENTS WERE ENHANCED.					KABIL LAGAN HOLDING, SECTION 305 (2).		
		After contest.	On compromise.	Ex parte.	Total.	Rejected under section 52 (a).	Dismissed.	Withdrawn.	Total.	Section 52 (a).	Section 30.	Total.		Enhanced under section 52 (a).	Enhanced under section 30.	Enhanced under section 30 and 52.	Reduced under section 52 (b).	Total.	Number of holdings.	Area in aqas.	Rent settled.
		18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37
1	Teghra	1,507	110	1	1,498	360	1	270	630	Rs. A. P. 998 9 44	Rs. A. P. 908 9 44	Rs. A. P. 43 5 9	493	...	...	...	...	497	15	33-08	Rs. A. P. 63 12 104
	Begusarai	1,217	16	1	1,234	114	894	458	1,466	628 6 14	423 6 14	1,356 18 104	485	...	...	17	503	503	7	6-18	30 3 0
	Gogri	194	44	3	240	88	190	274	552	1,640 8 104	881 5 3	2,420 14 14	393 5 74	543	516	110	84	1,203	96	168-02	384 6 9
	Total	2,718	170	5	2,993	562	815	982	1,349	3,140 8 44	891 5 3	4,021 13 74	471 9 3	1,520	516	110	56	2,202	117	184-00	686 7 74

APPENDIX E (iii).

Statement of appeals in cases under section 105, Bengal Tenancy Act.

Serial number.	NAME OF THANA.	Total number of cases filed in the thana.	Total number of appeals filed.	Total number of appeals decided.	NUMBER OF DECISIONS OF REVENUE OFFICERS.				REMARKS.
					Up-held.	Modi-fied.	Re-versed.	Re-manded.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	Teghra	105	17	17	14	1	2	...	
	Begusarai	141	18	6	4	...	...	...
	Gogri	232	6	5	3	...	2	...	
	Total	478	36	28	23	1	4	...	

APPENDIX E (iv).

Statement of section 40 cases.

Serial number.	NAME OF THANA.	Total number of cases instituted.	DISPOSED OF		Total area in acres for which rents were commuted.	Total rent fixed in rupees.	Average rate.	REMARKS.
			Allowed.	Dis-allowed.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Teghra	208	86	122	153	960	Rs. A. P. 6 5 0	
	Begusarai	110	86	24	729	1,418	1 15 2	
	Gogri	7	2	5	7	8	1 2 8	
	Total	325	174	151	888	2,386	2 11 0	

APPENDIX E (v).

Statement of section 106 classification.

Serial number.	NAME OF THANA.	Total number of cases.	ZIRAT vs. BAKASHT.		POSSESSION.								MONEY-RENT DISPUTES.			
			Landlord vs. landlord.		Landlord vs. raiyat.		Raiyat vs. landlord.		Raiyat vs. raiyat.				Landlord vs. raiyat.		Raiyat vs. landlord.	
			Allowed.	Disallowed.	Allowed.	Disallowed.	Allowed.	Disallowed.	Allowed.	Disallowed.	Allowed.	Disallowed.	Allowed.	Disallowed.	Allowed.	Disallowed.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1	Tegra	210	...	...	12	16	4	14	8	11	2	5	38	24	4	17
	Allowed ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Disallowed	122	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Total	210	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	Begusarai	441	...	8	16	16	23	20	4	10	7	31	209	30	15	13
	Allowed	397	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Disallowed	144	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Total	441	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3	Gogri	551	...	...	27	74	14	8	7	2	16	14	204	202	1	1
	Allowed	284	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Disallowed	267	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Total	551	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Grand Total	1,202	...	8	55	52	41	43	19	23	...	50	449	256	20	30
4	Allowed	669	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Disallowed	533	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Total	1,202	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Serial number.	NAME OF THANA.	PRODUCE-RENT DISPUTE.				STATUS.				TITLE.		TREES.		RE-MEASUREMENT.		RENTS-FREE CLAIMS.		REMARKS
		Landlord vs. raiyat.		Raiyat vs. landlord.		Landlord vs. raiyat.		Raiyat vs. landlord.										
		Allowed.	Disallowed.	Allowed.	Disallowed.	Allowed.	Disallowed.	Allowed.	Disallowed.	Allowed.	Disallowed.	Allowed.	Disallowed.	Allowed.	Disallowed.			
		18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34
1	Teghra	9	2	...	3	1	2	3	5	26	
	Allowed	9				0				2		5		...	...	...	...
	Disallowed	5				1				3		26		...	...	...	...
	Total	14				1				5		31		...	...	...	...
2	Begusarai	5	5	1	1	...	6	3	4	3	3	11	1	...	1	...	...
	Allowed	6				3				3		11		...	...	...	...
	Disallowed	6				7				3		1		...	1	...	...
	Total	12				10				6		12		...	1	...	...
3	Gogri	1	2	...	1	...	7	3	2	8	3	3	4	...	...	...	...
	Allowed	1				3				5		3		...	...	...	...
	Disallowed	3				0				3		4		...	...	...	...
	Total	4				12				11		7		...	...	...	...
	Grand Total	15	9	1	5	...	10	6	7	13	9	19	31	...	1	...	...
4	Allowed	16				6				13		19		...	...	...	...
	Disallowed	14				17				9		21		...	1	...	...
	Total	30				23				22		50		...	1	...	...

IX

APPENDIX E (vi).

Statement of appeals in cases under section 106, Bengal Tenancy Act.

Serial No.	NAME OF THANA.	Total number of cases filed in the thana.	Total number appeals filed.	Total number appeals decided.	NUMBER OF DECISIONS OF REVENUE OFFICERS—				REMARKS.
					Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.	Remanded.	
1	Teghra	210	28	28	4	...	24	...	
2	Baguseral	441	109	109	90	...	19	...	
3	Gogri	551	43	40	34	3	6	...	
	Total	1,202	180	160	128	3	40	...	

APPENDIX G (i).

Settlement Financial Statement—Private Estates.

Main sub-head of Budget.	EXPENDITURE.							REMARKS.
	1899-00.	1900-01.	1901-02.	1902-03.	1903-04.	1904-05.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1. Pay and Allowance of—		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Settlement Officer	...	5,112 8 11	7,590 14 1	4,600 8 2	2,308 11 7	...	10,709 6 3	
Assistant Settlement Officers	...	13,616 14 7	41,102 12 0	25,383 2 2	18,600 9 2	2,544 11 7	1,01,268 2 6	
2. Fixed Establishment	986 15 11	2,443 2 1	2,148 5 6	259 13 4	5,586 5 0	
3. Temporary Establishment	...	5,541 8 4	27,610 4 0	24,120 12 2	10,623 11 0	1,345 8 9	75,750 9 3	
4. Contract and Job Work	...	507 11 2	6,204 7 6	15,296 13 1	3,228 0 2	110 9 8	24,401 11 7	
5. Travelling Allowance of—	...	4,211 2 5	11,473 7 8	5,844 8 3	2,177 1 0	100 14 0	23,607 1 9	
Officers	
Establishment	...	1,980 1 9	2,165 8 8	2,101 8 8	1,708 5 0	116 10 0	8,010 1 8	
6. Supplies and Services—	...	111 1 0	607 9 0	681 8 0	47 0 0	...	1,447 2 0	
Forms	
Tents	...	2,300 2 0	189 7 2	689 5 4	...	...	4,241 15 7	
Petty Construction	29 0 0	288 0 0	...	...	387 0 0	
Repairs	196 9 6	...	196 9 6	
7. Contingencies	
Hot-weather Charges	...	5 4 7	219 12 6	327 10 6	227 9 1	...	808 4 8	
Office Rent	...	28 2 0	786 11 0	1,197 3 7	1,176 4 9	...	3,188 6 1	
Service Postage	...	168 8 2	240 15 0	585 1 9	318 9 3	...	1,919 3 2	
Service Telegrams	...	25 8 0	104 15 0	114 12 0	126 15 0	...	371 14 0	
Miscellaneous	...	56,856 12 1	57,005 12 9	10,103 16 11	9,321 15 10	757 9 11	1,23,064 9 6	
Total	...	91,780 13 0	1,35,970 8 4	1,00,607 4 8	59,496 10 9	5,345 10 3	3,92,200 15 0	

APPENDIX G (ii).

Description of charges.	EXPENDITURE.							REMARKS.
	1899-00.	1900-01.	1901-02.	1902-03.	1903-04.	1904-05.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Rs.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Traverse survey	16,250	29,045 0 0	5,005 0 0	...	...	...	50,301 0 0	
Cadastral survey	...	29,203 0 0	51,869 0 0	21,651 0 0	...	...	1,04,513 0 0	
Record-writing	...	135 0 0	18,012 0 0	15,139 0 0	2,134 0 0	...	35,419 0 0	
Supervision of kharapuri	...	54,349 14 6	29,450 0 0	6,688 0 0	...	...	90,487 14 6	
Attestation	...	...	24,433 0 0	15,892 6 7	1,235 4 9	...	51,950 11 4	
Case-work under section 102A	...	...	12,627 0 0	9,995 9 8	...	...	16,529 9 8	
Case-work and final publication	...	...	17,000 0 0	25,215 9 1	6,221 14 9	...	58,407 7 10	
Case-work under sections 105 and 106	...	...	...	3,502 12 7	10,956 0 11	...	14,518 13 8	
Computation and recovery	...	...	...	2,948 12 10	4,966 3 8	...	13,085 3 8	
Supervision	...	22,085 10 2	23,135 8 4	42,221 6 0	22,297 4 1	...	1,06,638 12 7	
Supplies services and contingencies	...	4,345 4 4	10,625 0 0	12,404 10 1	6,635 14 7	5,345 10 3	40,344 7 8	
Total	16,250	1,00,254 12 0	2,10,856 8 4	1,45,296 4 8	54,630 10 9	5,345 10 3	5,83,733 15 0	

APPENDIX H.

No. 957B., dated Purnea, the 11th February 1904.

From—H. COUPLAND, Esq., I.C.S., Settlement Officer, Bihar,

To—The Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture, Bengal.

WITH reference to your No. 28408., dated the 8th December 1903, and subsequent reminders, I have the honour to submit the following report as to the comparatively small number of cases under section 106 filed in thanas Begusarai and Teghra, district Monghyr.

2. As compared with Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga districts, the number of cases filed in these two thanas works out to 28 per thousand khatians as against 49 and 65, respectively. The only explanation for this is that the parties have preferred to go to the Civil rather than the Revenue Courts for alteration of entries in the record-of-rights. That they should have done so is accounted for partly by the results of Civil suits so instituted, to be described later, and partly in the cases of these two thanas that the people are notoriously litigious and have in their midst two Munsifs' Courts, both of which are more accessible to the majority of the parties than the Settlement Officer, Monghyr. It is possible that the local Bar of Begusarai and Teghra had something to do with it, thinking that it would be more profitable for them that the cases should be disposed of at Begusarai and Teghra than at Monghyr. As a matter of fact, I may note that a large majority of our section 106 cases were taken up locally and not at Monghyr, but it is probable that this was not anticipated.

3. There can, however, be little doubt that the results of suits in Civil Courts as compared with similar suits in Revenue Courts in Darbhanga district had been noted by many of the more important landlords, and they knew they had many more chances of getting what they wanted from the former, and it was for this reason mainly that they preferred to file rent and title suits in the Munsifs' Courts rather than under section 106. That from this point of view they were wise will, I think, be fairly obvious from the following examination of the figures and facts in connection with a large number of such suits collected by Mr. Monahan.

4. The following figures are available of cases filed and decided between 1st April 1902 and 16th September 1903:—

Begusarai subdivi- sion—Monghyr—	Title suits instituted.	Decided—			
		<i>Ex-parte</i>	On com- promise.	Contested.	Total.
1st Munsif	628	55	62	8	125
2nd Munsif	386	12	52	6	70
					195

The nature of these cases is shown in the following table:—

Nature of disputes.		1st Munsif.	2nd Munsif.
Disputes as to possession	...	8	35
Claims to higher rents than that attested	...	78	22
Claims to entry of land as "khud kasht"	...	44	5
Others	...	Nil	8
Total	...	125	70=195

The records of most of these cases have been examined and notes made as to how the entry in the settlement records was arrived at. I will give briefly the results of this comparison village by village.

5. *Mausa Kamaruddinpur, Begusarai, Thana No. 210.*—Fourteen cases—all brought by one Nasib Singh against various tenants, the landlord also being made a party. The lands in dispute were recent accretions which the Attestation Officer, and subsequently an officer deciding cases under section 103A, decided to be in the cultivating possession of various tenants whose holdings adjoined the accreted land. Nasib Singh is a creature of the landlord's set up to claim possession on the latter's behalf. The Munsif decreed all these cases in favour of Nasib Singh—four *ex-parte*, nine on compromise, and one on contest,—the land being declared to be Nasib Singh's holding on produce rent and not as recorded part of the actual cultivator's cash-rent-paying holdings. In the one contested case the defendant-tenant admitted appellant's claim, and only contested that he was not liable to be mulcted in costs. From the judgment in this case, it appears that Nasib Singh admitted that he was not in possession of the lands in dispute: no evidence was taken as to his right or title to possession. Probably in this case it was not necessary, as both landlord and tenant admitted this, either by compromise or non-appearance; but it is probable an officer trying a similar case under section 106 would have insisted on further evidence before giving an *ex-parte* decree.

6. *Mausa Jhamatia, Begusarai, Thana No. 70.*—Eleven cases—all brought by the landlords Khajah Mohamad and Gouhar Ali Khan—all relating to rents. In ten of these the landlords claimed rents according to recent *kabuliyata*. This claim was made at attestation, and in nine out of the ten cases also under section 103A, but was disallowed on the ground

that the kabuliyats enhanced the rents by more than two annas in the rupee, and were consequently illegal under section 29 (b), Bengal Tenancy Act. In seven cases the Munsif has given decrees for the kabuliyat rents on compromise, and in the remaining three cases, *ex-parte*. The effect of this order is to enhance the rents of these ten tenants from Rs 705-0-6 to Rs. 1,371-7-1½, that is to say, by nearly 100 per cent. In the *ex-parte* cases one witness deposed that the tenant holds at a certain rent, as specified in the kabuliyat exhibited. In the compromise petitions it is stated that the entry of rent in the kabuliyat is correct and rent has been paid accordingly up to eight annas *kist* of 1310, and that plaintiff and defendant decline to be bound by the survey proceedings. I reserve my comments on this batch of cases for a later paragraph. In the eleventh case of this village a holding recorded as on cash rent was declared on compromise to be held on produce rent. The case was inquired into at attestation and under section 103A, and the holding was decided to be cash-paying on the evidence of a witness cited by both parties.

7. *Mauza Sultanpur, Thana No. 513.*—Eight cases brought by one Mukh Lal Chaudhry against eight tenants in respect of lands recorded as being part of their *raiya* holdings. In all eight cases it was decreed on compromise that Mukh Lal Chaudhry is the tenant, and the defendants, under-tenants in respect of the lands in question. The dispute was considered at *khanapuri* and attestation and again under section 103A. All the officers who enquired into it held that Mukh Lal Chaudhry could not be considered as a tenant in respect of these lands, being the landlord's own brother-in law, and the lands in question having been in the cultivating tenant's possession before the landlord recorded Mukh Lal Chaudhry in his *jamabandi* as the nominal tenant. It is difficult to see what the munsif could have done in such a case, but it is obvious that the effect of his order is to nullify the provisions of section 178, Bengal Tenancy Act.

8. *Mouza Kaithwa, Thana No. 403.*—Four cases brought by landlord claiming rents higher than those attested. The attested rents were objected to under section 103A, and the case officer held that they should stand, being in accordance with genuine *pattas* produced by the tenants. All four cases were decreed *ex-parte* while the tenants were in jail. They have since applied successfully for a re-trial.

9. *Mauza Raghunathpur, Thana No. 248.*—Nine cases brought by Ajodhya Prasad Singh, the landlord, claiming higher rent than that attested. Four cases were decreed on contest, the contest being only on the question of liability of defendant to pay costs, four on compromise, and one *ex-parte*. The tenants admitted the rents claimed by the landlord, as they had done previously under section 103A, though they contested his claims at attestation. The rents attested were those shown by the landlord as payable in 1296. The present rents being disallowed, as in 1297, there was an enhancement by more than two annas in the rupee. The result of these decisions is to raise the rent of eight tenants from Rs. 54-14-10 to Rs. 67-4. In the ninth the case tenant admitted his holding is *kamat*, and the decree is that the land be so recorded. By *kamat* it is presumed the Munsif means *sirat* within the meaning of section 120, Bengal Tenancy Act.

10. *Mauza Nadihnani Dakhli Talauna Thana, No. 150.*—Fourteen cases brought by Mahanth Lachmi Das, landlord. All these were to declare certain lands recorded as in possession of certain tenants to be in the *khas* possession of the landlord, either as *khudkasht*, *kamat*, or *kamat khas*, by all three of which terms the Munsif apparently means *sirat*, as defined in section 120, Bengal Tenancy Act. All fourteen were decreed—ten *ex-parte*, three on compromise and one after contest. The last is instructive. At attestation the holding was recorded as *batai* (i.e., on produce rent) in the name of Abdhut Gauri without objection on the part of the landlord. Under section 103A, Abdhut claimed to hold on cash rent: this was disallowed. Lakshmi Das also objected to the entry on the ground that the land was in his own possession, but withdrew his objection. Abdhut in his written statement says "the land was formerly my *raiya* *jote* and was declared to be *batai* in my absence: plaintiff, at the beginning of the settlement operations, having dispossessed me from the disputed land, is still in the possession of the same. The defendant is very poor, and I have voluntarily given up my rights to the disputed land, both as a *raiya* and as a *bataidar*." He goes on to protest against being mulcted in costs. It is on a statement of this nature that the Munsif declares the wretched tenants' lands to be not only in the possession of the landlord, but to be actually *sirat* land. I may note that in this case, as in several others, the Munsif directs a copy of the decree to be sent to the Collector of Monghyr for necessary correction of the records! The compromised and *ex-parte* cases are all similar. In several the landlord contested the entry in our record under section 103A, and either withdrew or admitted the tenant's possession, and claimed that the rent was *mankhap* and not *batai* as recorded.

11. *Mauza Nagargama, Thana No. 614.*—Thirty-one cases—all brought by Chandī Lal Singh, landlord, claiming higher rents than those attested. All 31 cases were decreed *ex-parte* on the mere statement of the *patwari* that the rents claimed were in accordance with the *jamabandi*. All these rents were hotly contested at attestation, and again under section 103A. The village papers and other evidence showed that the landlord enhanced rents in 1297 by from 1 to 5 annas per bigha, and again enhanced in 1304. The rates during the period 1297 to 1304 were Re. 1-4 and Rs. 3-8 a bigha. These were enhanced to Re. 1-6 and Rs. 4. This second enhancement was therefore illegal, both under section 29 (b) and section 29 (c). The result of this batch of decrees is to enhance the rents of 31 tenants from Rs. 687 to Rs. 787.

12. *Mauza Talauna, Thana No. 158.*—Four cases brought by Mahanth Lakshmi Das for record of land recorded in tenants' names as *khudkasht*. All four cases decreed on

compromise. The facts are similar to those as Nadilmani (*vide* paragraph 10 above) and the terms of the compromises are the same.

13. The above notes cover nearly 100 of the decided cases dealing with rents or claims to *khudkasht*. The remaining cases have not been identified, or else deal with disputes as to possession, details of which are not necessary.

14. It is unfortunate that there were no real contents in any of these cases from which it might be seen how the Munsifs would act in regard to claims to what we hold to be illegal rents, and to *sirat* land, with all the facts put before them in the same way as they are put before or gathered by an Attestation Officer. It is obvious, however, from the orders directing copies of decrees to be sent to the Collector of Monghyr for correction of the record-of-rights that they know perfectly well that their orders affected such a record, and the account given above of these 100 cases shows equally well that, provided a compromise was filed or admission made or the defendant failed to appear, they in no case considered it necessary to call for evidence rebutting the presumption attaching under section 103B to the correctness of the entries made in a record-of-rights. I am disposed to think that a record-of-rights being a public document prepared under definite rules by responsible Government officers, such evidence ought to have been taken before passing an order the effect of which is to make null and void an entry in a record so prepared.

15. The cases described in paragraphs 10 and 12 apparently show that the Munsifs are unaware of, or do not follow, Mr. Ohapman's rulings as Special Judge of Tirhut in the case Hitnarsin Singh and others, appellants, *versus* Naurangi Singh and others, respondents (Appeals Nos. 18 and 24 to 36 of 1901), in regard to *khudkasht* and *sirat* lands. It is equally obvious that they consider themselves bound to accept any rent that may be agreed upon between landlord and tenant, irrespective of whether the rent so agreed upon involves an illegal enhancement or not.

16. I feel almost certain that had these cases come before a Revenue Officer under section 106, Bengal Tenancy Act, the landlord would have been non-suited in at least 75 per cent. of them, simply because no Revenue Officer would have accepted these compromises without proper scrutiny, and most of them would not have stood any scrutiny. Whether the Revenue Officer's method of dealing with such cases is right or wrong, the fact remains that the Civil Court deals with them quite differently, and it is not a matter of surprise that where the landlords are up to the ropes and know exactly what has happened in other districts, they should prefer the Civil Court procedure, and this I believe to be the main reason for the small number of section 106 cases filed in these two thanas of North Monghyr.

17. The question is one, however, of more than local importance. Take the cases noted in paragraphs 6, 8, 9 and 11 above, where the Munsifs' decrees restore rents which, after careful enquiry, the Revenue Officer has found to be illegal. Such cases are very common in North Bhagalpur under attestation this season. It would not be exaggerating to say that in 40 per cent. of the villages the landlords have enhanced rents illegally since the passing of the Tenancy Act. In all villages irrespective of whether rents are disputed or not, we call for rent papers from the year in which the Tenancy Act came into force. These are carefully examined and a rent history prepared. The years, if any, in which measurements were made or rents enhanced are noted, the amount of enhancement in each case, and the value of the measurement. On these notes orders are passed as to the basis on which the Attestation Officer will attest the rents.

18. A typical case, and one affecting a large number of villages, has already been referred to you demi-officially, *i.e.*, that of the Pachgachhia Babus. Examination of the landlords' papers showed a general enhancement of rents by more than two annas in the rupee in 1295 (two years after the passing of the Tenancy Act), and a second enhancement in 1305. The rents fixed in 1305 were agreed to by the raiyats who executed kabuliyats and are admittedly being paid. We hold, however, that the second enhancement was illegal as being within 15 years of the first [section 29 (c)], and the first was equally illegal under section 29 (b). We have therefore attested the rents payable at the rates in vogue before this first enhancement. This particular case is one in which we should have preferred to leave the rents alone. The present rates are not high; the landlord has a good reputation and his villages are practically free from disputes of all kinds; but as the law stands, I fail to see how we could have acted otherwise than we have done. Now I take it the Pachgachhia Babu will, if well advised, ignore our record, collect rents on his 1305 kabuliyats and sue any recusants in the Civil Courts. Contested cases will be dropped; in the remainder he will get decrees *ex parte*, or on compromise in the terms of the most recent kabuliyats.

19. Similarly, the Maharaja of Soubaraa, the Baruari Babus, the Barahil Babus, Babus Ramani Mohon Singh, Rajendra Narain Prasad, Janeshwar Singh and others, too numerous to mention, whose rents have been cut down to what we take to be the amount legally payable, will be able to nullify a great part of what has been done with an expenditure of much time and trouble and make our record out of date almost before it has been finally published. I do not think I am exaggerating what is likely to happen. In no district that has been brought under settlement operations have so many illegal enhancements been discovered, and in no district are so many of these supported by kabuliyats signed and executed by the tenants. Besides upon enhancements of rates, we find also innumerable enhancements made under colour of assessment of rents for excess area after what is known as measurement. In many cases the so-called excess area is actually described in the landlords' papers as *saribi*, that is to say, due to difference in calculation of area or system of measurement and not to

actual encroachment. In many cases enquiry shows that a shorter *laggi* is used for the measurement than was in vogue before. In all such cases we treat the enhancement as one of rates, and not on account of *bona fide* excess area. It is a doubtful point whether even if the excess is real, section 52, Bengal Tenancy Act, allows the landlord to assess additional rent except through a Court; but in such cases we do not interfere if the extra rent has been paid or agreed to in a registered *kabuliyat*. In cases where we treat enhancement after measurement as one of rate, though nominally on account of excess area, it seems to me improbable that the Civil Courts, even in the contested cases, would support our action where the enhanced rent has been paid or a *kabuliyat* executed; because I am confident the ordinary Civil Court misreads section 27 and the first proviso to section 29. The former section makes it merely incumbent on a Court to presume the rent for the time being payable to be fair and equitable: it does not relieve the Court of the necessity of enquiring what is the rent payable. Similarly, proviso (1) makes a written and registered contract unnecessary if the rent has been paid for three years at the rate claimed: it does not legalise a rent which has been illegally enhanced under sub-sections (b) and (c).

20. It is not, however, from contested suits that I anticipate much damage to our record, though even in these the ignorance of parties and the average local Baras to the meaning and weight to be attached to different sections of the Tenancy Act make it reasonable to suppose that a fair percentage of incorrect decisions are likely to be given by Mufassal Munsifs' Courts. The main danger is the facilities provided by the present law or present practice for unscrupulous parties to get set aside, on compromise, admission or *ex-parte*, decisions that have been arrived at by Revenue Officers after most careful enquiry into all the facts of the case.

21. As far as compromises and admissions are concerned, the present law seems to me sufficient, if properly applied. Section 375, Civil Procedure Code, distinctly says that the agreement or compromise must be a lawful one, and I presume this implies that the Court, before accepting an agreement or compromise, must satisfy itself that it is lawful. Now I submit that in cases referred to in paragraphs 5 to 12 above, the facts I have noted, which the Munsif, had he cared to, could have discovered, clearly show that the agreements and compromises were not lawful, inasmuch as under section 178 of the Tenancy Act an occupancy *raiyyat* cannot contract himself out of his rights, and under section 120 landlord's *khudkasht* or *sirat* land must be such as therein described, and no land not already *sirat* can be made such. It may be added that when any admission made or compromise filed is inconsistent with an entry in a finally published record-of-rights, the presumption should be that the admission or compromise is not lawful inasmuch as under section 108B the Court is bound to presume that the entry is correct.

22. In the case of *ex-parte* decrees it is usual to examine a formal witness for complainant. I am not sure, however, that even this is obligatory, if not it should be, and I would further submit that in the cases where the plaintiff impugns the correctness of entries in the record-of-rights, it should be made incumbent on the Court to insist on positive proof to rebut the presumption of correctness. It is obvious that in both cases the Munsif's already heavy burden of work would be added to, but this is a reason for putting on additional Munsifs, not for letting things slide and allowing the provisions of the Tenancy Act protecting the cultivator's rights to be made null and void.

23. I have already referred above to the possibilities open to the dissatisfied landlord of getting what he wants not by title but by ordinary rents suits. In my opinion these are even more likely to stultify our record than the formal title suits, such as those above described filed in Monghyr. Mr. Monahan has supplied the following figures for Beguserai subdivision of cases filed and disposed of between June 1902 and September 1903, during the period, that is, during which the record was being finally published:—

Name of Court	Filed.	Disposed of—	
		<i>Ex-parte.</i>	Compromised.
1st Munsif	...	2,805	823
2nd Munsif	...	2,547	690
			582
			646

Both Munsifs informed Mr. Monahan that they did not, in *ex-parte* and compromised cases, insist on production of the *khatian* of the tenant sued. The same remark applies also to title suits. Production of *khatians* is not insisted on, and in no single instance, so far as I am aware, has any call for records or request for information been received from either of these Munsifs' Courts. From this it would appear that they either deliberately ignore the fact that a record-of-rights has been prepared for the area with which these cases deal, or else deliberately refuse to recognise both the value of such a record and the presumption of correctness attaching to the entries therein.

24. I have no wish to make this a personal charge against the particular Munsifs now referred to: the fault seems to be rather of the system than of the individual. I see no reason, however, why it should not be made binding on a Munsif to insist on production of the *khatians* concerned in all rent and title suits, nor why it should not be pointed out to them that under section 375 a compromise or agreement must be "lawful," and that therefore all compromises and agreements require careful scrutiny. I would also ask that before an *ex-parte* decree, involving a change in the record-of-rights, some enquiry be made as to whether such a change is justifiable.

25. I have referred above to the possibilities likely to follow from the present practice in North Bhagalpur. I will conclude by noting a striking case which has just cropped up in Surjapur. Twelve petitions were received the other day from one Mussamat Bibi Rahitini asking for correction of the record in respect of the rents of 12 of her tenants against whom she had got decrees (on compromise) for higher rents than those attested. The rent entries referred to were disputed at attestation, and were subsequently the subject of objections under section 103A. The reference then submitted shows that in 1307 the then landlord enhanced the rents and took kabuliyats from the 12 tenants. Subsequently the proprietary rights changed hands and the present landlord, on getting possession, again took kabuliyats for enhanced rents in 1309. This second enhancement was illegal under section 29 (c), and rents were attested according to the kabuliyats of 1307. The landlord has now got decrees for the 1309 kabuliyat rents. This is a very clear case where, had the Munsif attached the proper weight to the entries in the record and before accepting the compromises called for the record of the village, he could not have failed to find the compromises unlawful. It is needless to say that I have refused to allow any correction, so called, to be made in the records.

APPENDIX J.

Caste Statement.

Serial No.	CASTE.	Average area of a holding under each caste.	Percentage of the areas occupied by the castes to total area under compilation.	REMARKS.
		Acres.		
1	Babhan ...	3.77	20.17	Digger.
2	Brahman ...	2.631	5.46	
3	Bind ...	3.155	.28	
4	Chamar ...	1.164	.52	
5	Dhaukh ...	2.155	6.23	Shepherd.
6	Dusadh ...	1.67	2.36	
7	Gareri ...	1.608	.33	
8	Goala ...	3.831	19.13	
9	Kahar ...	1.704	.7	Servants.
10	Kayeth ...	2.915	1.32	
11	Koeri ...	2.99	9.8	
12	Kurmi ...	1.859	.95	
13	Mushar ...	2.82	3.65	Digger.
14	Nonia ...	1.327	.26	
15	Rajput ...	4.56	4.64	Bearer.
16	Tatwa ...	1.6	1.82	
17	Turba ...	.226	.2	Do.
18	Atith ...	.964	.17	Beggars.
19	Malah ...	.978	.67	
20	Paithan ...	1.949	.34	
21	Syed ...	2.543	.65	
22	Sheikh ...	3.54	2.53	
23	Jolaha ...	1.278	.66	
24	Kunj ...	1.221	.56	
25	Others ...	2.549	18.13	
	Total ...	.....	100.00	

APPENDIX K (i).

(LIST OF ESTATES.)

South Monghyr—Thana Sheikhpora.

Serial No.	NAME OF ESTATE.	Tauzi No.	Nature of settlement.	Area in acres.	Former revenue.	New revenue proposed.	Origin.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Daudpur Itwa	1815	Mostajiri ...	243.622	Rs. A. P. 606 14 0	Rs. A. P. 711 4 0	Wyrana mahal. Resumed in 1840 under Regulation II of 1819.
2	Barundihi	317	Ditto ...	269.647	350 9 0	612 6 0	Resumed under Regulation II of 1819 in 1841-42.

Thana Surajgarha.

1	Shamsa Athgarh	1820	Temporary settlement.	216.00	104 5 0	57 8 0	Alluvial formation. Resumed under Regulation II of 1819 in 1825.
2	Jagdishpur	1831	Ditto ...	859.61	1,178 8 0	845 4 0	Alluvial formation. Resumed under Regulation II of 1819 on 19th October 1824.
3	Rahatpur	1407	Ditto ...	2,255.603	707 0 0	623 10 0	Resumed under Regulation II of 1819. The particulars of resumption are not forthcoming.
4	Arazi Wallpur Janib East ...	8569	Ditto ...	280.47	90 10 0	337 11 0	Alluvial formation. Resumed under Regulation II of 1819 in 1826.
5	Chakdunia	1306	Rayatwari ...	239.391	712 8 14	733 0 0	Alluvial formation. Resumed under Regulation II of 1819 in 1821.
6	Khagaur	4133	Ditto ...	104.844	74 5 5	119 14 0	Having been relinquished by the Railway Company, it was resumed by Government on 2nd February 1886.
7	Amspath Sarkar, thana Rampur.	3035	Ditto ...	236.975	489 11 10	648 6 0	Tandir mahal. Resumed under Regulation II of 1819 in 1845.
8	Jagir Gopal Singh, hawaldar	3353	Ditto ...	20.53	16 14 0	6 14 0	Purchased by Government in arrears of public demand on 30th July 1890.
9	Jagir Ajim Khan, ditto	7567	Ditto ...	20	2 0 0	3 4 0	Purchased in arrears of public demand on 30th July 1890.
10	Kherho Paranpur	1314	Ditto ...	759.474	985 13 0	3,568 14 0	This was "wyrana mahal." Excluded from permanent settlement.
11	Piparia Barari	988	Ditto ...	137.46	19 8 0	100 10 0	The estate is an accreted mahal formed from the bed of the Ganges in 1841. The estate is still locally called "245" from the area found to have accreted in 1841.
12	Paria Nawabganj	3128	Mostajiri ...	25.684	14 0 0	36 12 0	The estate is an "izad mahal" formed out of the permanently-settled estate Nawabganj and resumed under Regulation II of 1819 in 1845.

Thana Monghyr.

1	Jagir Darias Singh, sipahi ...	3577	Rayatwari ...	6.63	00 0 0	29 6 0	This estate is an "izad mahal" formed out of jagirs in Tikarampur. It was taken up by the Collector in 1856.
2	Jagir Tilak Singh	7568	Ditto ...	17.64	65 15 0	82 12 0	This was originally a permanently-settled estate, the proprietors of which applied for remission of revenue. The estate was thus struck off the roll: it began to reform in 1896. In 1897 a farming settlement was proposed.
	Jagir Moti Singh	3578	Ditto ...	37.06	23 8 0	37 12 0	Alluvial formation. Resumed under Regulation II of 1819.

Thana Monghyr—continued.

Serial No.	NAME OF ESTATE.	Tauzi No.	Nature of settlement.	Area in acres.	Former revenue.	New revenue proposed.	Origin.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
					Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
4	Jagir Ibrahim Khan ...	7576	Rayatwari ...	18.32	60 0 0	21 18 0	This Government estate originally bore No. 3279 on the revenue roll. It was temporarily settled with farmers from time to time. In 1873 a settlement was concluded for a term of 29 years, but it was found that the lands so settled appertained to another private estate. The Government estate itself having been washed away, it was struck off the revenue roll in 1875 and was re-entered in the Collectorate register, on having reformed in 1895, as tauzi No. 7576.
5	Kasimabad ...	4498	Ditto ...	140.405	598 9 9	612 4 0	Purchased in revenue sale in 1872.
6	Gang Barar Hiro diara ...	4122	Ditto ...	117.38	598 15 0	618 6 0	Purchased by Government in revenue sale on 20th May 1868.
7	Diara Isri Prosad ...	7802	Ditto ...	479.84	274 7 2	169 4 0	"Tauzir mahal" taken up by the Collector in 1802.
8	Sibkund ...	425	Ditto ...	1,070.249	3,809 3 5	3,830 1 0	Purchased by Government in revenue sale on 9th January 1891.
9	Sundarpur Samilat ...	2391	Ditto ...	20.47	122 12 6	126 0 0	Resumed under Regulation II of 1819 in 1830.
10	Lagma ...	3331	Ditto ...	589.152	17,718 11 3	1,810 14 6	Purchased by Government in revenue sale on 28th May 1869.
11	Kutlupur ...	1443	Ditto ...	13,891.116	21,620 2 6	25,734 0 0	Resumed under Regulation II of 1819 in 1837.
12	Sirajabad Nankar ...	4493	Ditto ...	26.36	8 10 9	11 8 0	Purchased in 1891 in sale for arrears of revenue.
13	Jagir Manorath Singh ...	3589	Mustajiri ...	12.15	27 8 0	11 0 0	The estate was originally an "izad mahal" or excess area in mahal Tikarampur and distinct in itself, having nothing to do with any other estate. A temporary settlement of this estate was concluded in 1836.
14	Kamarpur diara ...	1543	Ditto ...	60.95	103 5 0	176 12 0	The estate was excluded from settlement at the time of decennial settlement. The site was then in the bed of the river. It reformed about the year 1836 when it was farmed.
15	Amanat Sarkar, bargoria ...	3527	Ditto ...	48.786	73 6 0	191 0 0	Purchased by Government for invalid soldiers in early days when it was all jungle and waste land.
16	Amanat Sarkar, Itahari ...	3081	Ditto ...	67.021	32 0 0	219 0 0	The estate comprises the surplus land left out of the land purchased by Government for invalid soldiers.
17	Tarapur ...	1324	Temporary settlement.	8,214.846	13,779 13 0	13,707 1 0	This estate originally formed part of mahal Barhampur. Having deluviated, the maliks obtained remission of revenue and thus lost all lien upon it. The estate reformed in 1835 and was traced out by kanungo Tara Babu, from whom it derives its name.
18	Jagir Dariad Singh, naok ...	3674	Ditto ...	17.805	28 13 0	52 10 0	An "izad mahal" formed out of the jagirs in Tikarampur taken up by the Collector on 28th June 1868.
19	Parautipur diara ...	1334	Ditto ...	125.37	198 0 0	63 8 0	The estate being an "izad mahal" was resumed under Regulation II of 1819 in 1823.
20	Khem Narayanpur ...	1325	Ditto ...	105.11	78 8 0	303 8 0	This mahal was originally a permanently settled estate. The major portion of the estate having been washed away by the Ganges, the maliks applied for remission of revenue and thus lost all lien upon it.

Thana Monghyr—continued.

Serial No.	NAME OF ESTATE.	Total No.	Nature of Settlement.	Area in acres.	Former revenue.	New revenue proposed.	Origin.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
					Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
21	Mabuli Diara	1341	Temporary Settlement.	118'24	822 8 0	81 0 0	Originally these estates formed part of a permanently settled estate in the same name. The lands having been allowed up by the river the maliks applied for revision of revenue and thus lost all lieu upon it. It was split up into 11 estates by Batwar in 1891.
22	Ditto	5738	Ditto ...	111'63		23 8 0	
23	Ditto	5738	Ditto ...	104'89		37 4 0	
24	Ditto	5734	Ditto ...	38'53		7 2 0	
25	Ditto	5735	Ditto ...	47'64		9 13 0	
26	Ditto	5736	Ditto ...	41'08		0 0 0	
27	Ditto	5737	Ditto ...	53'02		7 14 0	
28	Ditto	5738	Ditto ...	59'58		6 2 0	
29	Ditto	5830	Ditto ...	12'85		3 4 0	
30	Ditto	5740	Ditto ...	14'43		3 11 0	
31	Ditto	5741	Ditto ...	48'38		10 15 0	
32	Harnathpur Diara	1323	Ditto ...	908'176	181 12 0	1,147 0 0	Alluvial accretion resumed under Regulation II of 1819 in 1894.
33	Araji zamindari	1402	Ditto let out in farm.	5,244'426	9,220 3 8	9,091 12 0	Tauhr mahal resumed under Regulation II of 1819 in 1891.

Thana Gogri.

1	Amanat Sarkar Jalkar Mohani.	3663	Farming	398'04	298 0 0	377 6 0	Originally a Jalkar mahal situated in the amanat sarkar lands purchased by Government for invalid soldiers.
2	Muras Tappa Chantham ...	3143	Ditto	960'34	80 2 0	158 6 0	Wyrnamahal resumed under Regulation II of 1819 in 1830.
3	Goss Tappa Chantham ...	3141	Ditto	2,031'23	86 2 6	326 0 0	Excluded from permanent settlement on account of the lands being all waste and jungle.
4	Amanat Sarkar, Thana Parbaha.	3029	Ditto	16'36	62 2 0	48 11 0	Surplus area out of the lands purchased by Government in 1811 for giving Jagi to invalid soldiers.
5	Dhanupra Mohanlique Mohanpur, Tappa Baraunja.	3209	Ditto	3,362'283	1,362 13 0	3,116 5 0	Excluded from permanent settlement on account of the land being waste and jungle. Resumed under Regulation II of 1819 in 1832.
6	Taharabad	2679	Loyahwan ...	8'40	18 0 0	15 10 0	Purchased by Government in Revenue sale in 1896.
7	Agar	1360	Temporary settlement.	2,143'874	1,711 10 0	2,452 10 8	Resumed under Regulation II of 1819 in 1830.
8	Cherekhera	1356	Ditto	4,327'516	2,667 0 8	2,396 0 0	The estate was excluded from the permanent settlement as it was nearly all jungle and was resumed under Regulation II of 1819 in 1830.
9	Binda Diara	1351	Rayatwari ...	27,866'989	16,703 12 4	20,554 13 0	Resumed under Regulation II of 1819 in 1827.

Thana Teghra.

Serial No.	NAME OF ESTATE.	Lausi No.	Nature of Settlement.	Area in	Former revenue.	New revenue proposed.	Origin.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Arazi Chakbalsir Nath ...	3600	Temporary settlement.	308'659	663 11 0	1,215 11 0	Alluvial formation resumed under Regulation II of 1819 in 1825.

Thana Begusarai.

Serial No.	NAME OF ESTATE.	Lausi No.	Nature of Settlement.	Area in	Former revenue.	New revenue proposed.	Origin.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Kodra	3508	Temporary settlement.	60'32	86 4 0	158 0 0	The estate having been discovered to be outside the permanent settlement was resumed under Regulation II of 1819 in 1849.
2	Sisauri	1781	Ditto	15'13	159 0 0	325 14 0	This entire village Sisauri was discovered to be outside the permanent settlement and the estates were resumed under Regulation II of 1819 in 1849-50. It was brought under partition in 1893.
3	Ditto	1782	Ditto	161'803	159 0 0	334 10 0	
4	Ditto	2188	Ditto	158'063	159 0 0	310 2 0	
5	Ditto	3550	Ditto	130'119	159 0 0	320 10 0	
6	Gandak Barar Tatri	3377	Ditto	300'32	264 14 0	505 14 0	This is Taudr mahal. Resumed under Regulation II of 1819 in 1825
7	Gandak Baru Parchara Thar-singh pathi, Krishna Mohan Lall.	1759	Ditto	10'29	30 10 0	61 0 0	Alluvial formation. Resumed under Regulation II of 1819 in 1825 and brought under partition subsequently.
8	Gandak Baru Parchara Thar-singh pathi, Radha Krishanji.	1764	Ditto	18'01	30 10 0	69 10 0	
9	Gandak Baru Parchara Thar-singh pathi, Musamat Joyanti Kauri.	1768	Ditto	15'41	30 10 0	43 8 0	
10	Gandak Baru Parchara Thar-singh pathi, Brahmdeo Prasad.	3234	Ditto	17'313	60 10 0	56 10 0	
11	Gandak Baru Parchara Thar-singh pathi B. Udit N. Singh.	3540	Ditto	44'17	61 4 0	85 4 0	This estate having been discovered to have been out side the permanent settlement was resumed under Regulation II of 1819 when a musahgiri was made. It was brought under partition during the currency of the last settlement.
12	Dhyani Chaki	1773	Ditto	77'17	92 13 0	357 10 0	
13	Ditto	1775	Ditto	65'683	92 13 0	261 12 0	
14	Ditto	1780	Ditto	64'714	92 13 0	205 2 0	
15	Ditto	3551	Ditto	73'162	92 13 0	171 8 0	Resumed under Regulation II of 1819 in 1825 and 1826 having been proved to be out side the permanent settlement.
16	Arazi Walipur Barari (Sath-kurwa).	3570	Ditto	42'73	140 1 0	106 10 0	
17	Akbarpur Barari	1433	Ditto	1,410'674	1,538 11 11	2,225 2 0	This estate being over and above the area settled permanently was resumed under Regulation II of 1819 in 1823.
18	Arazi Bhawanandpur	1406	Ditto	10,050'559	10,680 15 0	11,382 2 0	Alluvial formation resumed under Regulation II of 1819 in 1825.
19	Taudr Jangasaidpur Barari ...	7690	Farming	836'58	392 15 7	194 8 0	Alluvial formation resumed under Regulation II of 1819 in 1890.
20	Taudr Pathna Barari	7691	Ditto	313'067	675 0 0	572 4 0	Alluvial formation resumed under Regulation II of 1819 in 1890.
21	Jalarnagar	605	Ditto	3,080'705	900 14 3	898 10 0 2,202 11 0 3,101 5 0	Purchased by Government in revenue sale in 1896.
22	Mahasi Bhawanandpur	3366	Razatari	2,225'639	5,370 12 6	5,684 8 0	Purchased by Government in revenue sale in 1898.

XXX

APPENDIX K (ii).
(General results.)

Serial number.	NAME OF THANA.	Number of estates.	Area in acres.	Former revenue.	New revenue proposed.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
South Monghyr.						
				Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
1	Shaikhupura	2	453-169	987 7 0	1,323 10 0	
2	Burajgarha	12	5,159-594	4,480 1 4½	7,080 1 10	
3	Monghyr	33	30,965-901	53,579 11 4	59,165 14 0	
	Total ...	47	36,578-664	59,017 3 8½	67,570 3 0	
North Monghyr.						
1	Gogri	9	41,112-123	22,984 15 10	33,444 7 0	
2	Tegra	1	3-6-659	683 12 0	1,215 11 0	
3	Begusarai	22	10,021-921	21,259 8 3	34,687 9 0	
	Total ...	32	51,040-702	44,968 4 1	61,247 11 0	
	Grand Total ...	79	97,629-366	1,03,925 7 9½	1,28,817 14 0	

APPENDIX K (iii).

CIRCLE.				Number of tenant's rent proposed.	Number of estates for which settlement rent-roll has been published in draft.	OBJECTIONS—		APPEALS—					NUMBER OF ESTATES OF WHICH A SETTLEMENT RENT-ROLL HAS BEEN—			REMARKS.
NAME OF THANA.	Area.	Number of estates.	Number of tenants.			Instituted.	Decided.	Instituted.	Decided.	Revenue Officer's decision—			Submitted for confirmation.	Confirmed.	Incorporated in the draft record.	
										Upheld.	Modified.	Reversed.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Shaikhpura ... Bursajgarha ... Monghyr ... Gogri ... Tegra ... Begusarai ...	Sq. miles. 152	79	11,787	11,788	79	913	913	14	14	12	...	8	79	■	79	

APPENDIX K (iv).

Thanawar statement of assessed area, etc.

THANA.	Total area of estate.	Total assessed area.	Percentage to total area.	DETAILS OF ASSESSED AREA AND ASSESSMENT—					
				In cultivating possession of tenure-holders.			Uncultivated but assessed in possession of tenure-holders.		
				Area.	Rent settled.	Rate.	Area.	Rent settled.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Shaikhupura	Acres. 453-169	Acres. 411-089	90-71	Acres. 23-74	Rs. A. 98 0	Rs. A. P. 4 2 8	Acres. 48-023	Rs. A. 45 14	Rs. A. P. 0 15 3
Burajgarha	5,159-594	4,104-084	79-40	302-43	595 8	1 10 3	1,630-546	427 4	0 4 2
Monghyr	30,965-901	24,520-785	79-13	1,327-43	3,97 6	2 15 10	3,464-984	3,450	0 15 11
Gogri	41,112-142	22,892-401	55-68	1,563-06	2,3-4 4	1 8 7	6,456-47	2,030 13	0 5 2
Tegra	3-6-659	308-744	99-01	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Begusarai	10,021-921	12,013-518	01-22	54-42	170 6	3 2 1	64-848	69 8	1 1 0
Total ...	97,629-366	64,216-220	65-80	3,321-78	7,235 8	2 2 9	11,661-901	6,073 7	0 8 4

THANA.	DETAILS OF ASSESSED AREA AND ASSESSMENT.									REMARKS.
	Area held by tenants holding direct from Government or settlement-holders.			Area held by tenants holding under tenure-holders.			Area held by under-tenants.			
	Area.	Rent settled.	Rate.	Area.	Rent settled.	Rate.	Area.	Rent settled.	Rate.	
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Shakhpura	Acres. 33-325	Rs. A. P. 1,510 10 0	Rs. A. P. 4 7 2	Acres.	Rs. A.	Rs. A. P.	Acres. 95	Rs. A. 4 12	Rs. A. P. 5 0 0	
Burajgarha	2,111-708	7,844 4 0	3 11 5	.....	.....	.....	16-84	88 0	5 3 7	
Monghyr	19,522-184	60,678 1 0	3 1 9	206-217	489 0	2 6 9	857-685	3,998 12	4 10 6	
Gogri	12,813-245	29,089 8 6	2 4 3	2,070-096	5,931 10	2 18 10	1,589-645	3,387 14	2 2 2	
Tegra	308-744	1,736 11 0	5 11 5	.....	.....	.....	14-87	98 6	0 2 11	
Begusarai	11,894-25	34,394 1 0	2 14 4	.....	.....	.....	243-86	937 10	4 0 9	
Total ...	46,983-426	1,35,203 4 6	2 14 1	2,276-013	6,430 10	2 13 2	2,721-830	8,567 6	3 2 4	

APPENDIX K (v) (a)

Results of assessment on existing rent of "Tenure-holders."

THANA.	CASH RENT PAYING.					ON PRODUCE RENT.					KABIL LAGAN.					REMARKS.
	Area.	Previous rent.		Settled rent.		Area.	Previous rent.		Settled rent.		Area.	Previous rent.		Settled rent.		
		Amount.	Incidence.	Amount.	Incidence.		Amount.	Incidence.	Amount.	Incidence.		Amount.	Incidence.	Amount.	Incidence.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Shaikhpora ...	71,703	Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.												
Burajgarha ...	1,092,070	30,080 0 0	8 10 0	143 11 0	2 0 0											
Monghyr ...	4,893,44	6,414 1 4	1 6 0	1,022 12 0	0 8 2											
Gogri ...	8,008,48	4,018 2 3	6 8 0	7,427 6 0	1 8 8											
Togra ...				4,455 1 0	8 10											
Begusarai ...	110,268	108 7 5	0 14 8	2 9 15 0	2 0 0											
Total ...	14,986	14,198 4 2	0 16 2	13,208 16 0	0 14 2											

APPENDIX K (v) (b).

Results of assessment on existing rent of tenants holding under Government or settlement-holders or farmers.

THANA.	CASH RENT PAYING.								ON PRODUCE RENT.				KABIL LAGAN.				REMARKS.
	Area.	Previous rent.		Settled rent.		Area.	Previous rent.		Settled rent.		Area.	Previous rent.		Settled rent.			
		Amount.	Incidence.	Amount.	Incidence.		Amount.	Incidence.	Amount.	Incidence.							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
	Acres.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A.P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A.P.	Acres.			Rs. A.	Rs. A.P.	Acres.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs. A.	Rs. A.P.		
Shaikhpora	537,839	575 3 8	1 11 3	1,508 10 0	4 7 3	1,197			4 0	2 11 0				598 8	1 12 2		
Burajgarha	1,248,568	4,410 11 9	3 11 1	6,073 14 0	5 0 4	3,645,597			1,174 6	2 1 3	338,698			2,510 4	2 8 8		
Monghyr	17,807,08	51,442 4 8	2 14 1	58,610 15 0	3 2 0	6,11,47			1,668 14	2 14 0	1,129,078			907 10	1 5 8		
Gogri	11,860,763	27,630 15 8	2 4 2	27,870 11 6	2 5 3	116,55			104 10	1 6 7	735,942			675 0	6 15 3		
Tegra	207,014	7-5 6 8	3 12 8	1,068 11 0	5 2 3						96,73			318 4	3 2 2		
Begusarai	11,087,426	24,715 0 10	2 1 11	33,613 0 0	2 14 2	156,945			462 13	3 16 1	98,870						
Total	43,201,802	1,00,015 10 7	2 8 1	1,26,740 13 6	2 14 11	1,380,969			3,362 11	2 4 11	2,400,265			5,080 2	2 1 11		

APPENDIX K (v) (c).

Results of assessment on existing rent of tenants holding under tenure-holders.

THANA.	CASH RENT PAYING.					ON PRODUCE RENT.					KABIL LAGAN.					REMARKS.
	Area.	Previous rent.		Settled rent.		Area.	Previous rent.		Settled rent.		Area.	Previous rent.		Settled rent.		
		Amount.	Incidence.	Amount.	Incidence.		Amount.	Incidence.	Amount.	Incidence.		Amount.	Incidence.	Amount.	Incidence.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Acro.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Acro.			Rs. A.	Rs. A. P.	Acro.			Rs. A.	Rs. A. P.	
Shaikhpora ...	.....	.....	...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....
Burajgarha ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....
Monghyr ...	167,107	455 4 1	2 14 4	568 6 0	2 8 0	40,11	...	...	130 10	2 10 6	...	...	...	...	.....
Gogri ...	361,548	1,184 13 9	4 5	1,593 0 0	4 4 4	1,701,731	...	...	4,360	2 8 11	7,42	...	...	25 2	3 1 10	
Teghra ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....
Begusarai ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.....
Total ...	618,662	1,640 1 10	3 2 5	1,910 12	5 11 1	1,750,841	...	...	4,490 12	2 9 0	6,42	...	...	2	3 1 10	

APPENDIX K (v) (d).

Results of assessment on existing rent of under-tenant.

CASH RENT PAYING.					ON PRODUCE RENT.					KABIL LAGA.			
Area.	Previous rent.		Settled rent.		Area.	Previous rent.		Settled rent.		Area.	Previous rent.		S
	Amount.	Incidence.	Amount.	Incidence.		Amount.	Incidence.	Amount.	Incidence.		Amount.	Incidence.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Acres.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Acres.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Acres.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
...
384	26 0 0	6 12 10	31 12 0	8 4 3	95	...	...	4 12 0	5 0 0	...	...	...	...
10038	370 0 0	3 10 6	330 14 0	3 4 9	1263	...	...	53 3 0	4 3 3	...	...	...	...
738184	407 8 9	0 8 11	1,217 5 0	1 10 7	757305	...	...	3,065 14 0	4 13 5	...	...	...	...
670	53 4 0	7 15 2	41 10 0	6 3 11	537584	...	...	1,833 4 0	3 6 4	263685	...	...	547
5911	807 10 1	5 3 1	290 0 0	5 0 11	817	...	...	50 11 0	3 2 6	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	18476	...	...	688 10 0	3 11 7	...	...	...	...
902174	1,185 1 4	1 4 8	1,120 9 0	2 2 11	1,508399	...	...	6,296 6 0	4 3 0	263455	...	...	351

APPENDIX K (vi).

Results of settlement.

THANA.	LANDS IN POSSESSION OF SETTLEMENT-HOLDERS, FARMERS AND TENURE-HOLDERS.			LANDS HELD BY ORDINARY TENANTS.		
	Present assessment.	Previous assessment.	New assessment.	Present assessment.	Previous assessment.	New assessment.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Acres.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Acres.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Shaikhpure	71763	621 9 0	143 14 0	539325	576 3 6	18
Burajgarha	1,992976	8,006 0 1	1,022 12 0	2,111708	4,466 11 9	7,444
Monghyr	4,792414	6,414 1 4	7,427 0 11	10,822154	51,442 4 8	60,078
Gogri	8,00944	4,018 2 3	4,445 1 11	12,903245	27,030 15 3	29,089
Teghra	...	...	...	303744	783 6 0	1,738
Begusarai	119268	108 7 5	230 14 0	11,99425	24,716 0 10	34,304
Total	14,96581	14,128 4 2	13,398 15 0	46,963426	1,09,015 10 7	1,35,302

THANA.	LANDS HELD BY TENURE-HOLDERS' TENANTS.			Total.	Deduct allowance, if any made to tenure-holders on col. 10.	Net present assessment.	INCIDENCE OF ASSESSMENT ON PRESENT ASSESSED AREA	
	Present assessment.	Previous assessment.	New assessment.				Of former assessment.	Of new assessment.
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Acres.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Shaikhpure	...	...	...	1,654 8 0	...	1,654 8 0	3 14 6	4 0 0
Burajgarha	...	...	...	8,867 0 0	...	8,867 0 0	1 13 1	2 2 6
Monghyr	206217	455 4 14	495 0	88,604 7 0	170 12	88,433 11 0	3 10 9	2 12 2
Gogri	2,070,696	1,184 15 9	5,931 10	39,436 4 6	1,193 11	38,242 11 6	1 6 6	1 10 9
Teghra	...	...	...	1,738 11 0	...	1,738 11 0	3 1 10	5 11 1
Begusarai	...	...	...	24,633 15 0	...	24,633 15 0	0 14 7	2 14 1
Total	2,270913	1,640 1 10	0,430 10	1,54,932 3 6	1,364 5	1,53,567 14 6	1 15 1	2 6 3

DEPARTMENT OF LAND RECORDS, BENGAL.

No. 1862.

FROM H. McPHERSON, Esq., I.C.S.,

Director of the Department of Land Records, Bengal,

TO THE SECRETARY TO THE BOARD OF REVENUE, L. P.,

LAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Dated Calcutta, the 30th June 1908.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit, for the consideration of the Board, the Final Report on the settlement of North Monghyr, prepared by Mr. H. Coupland, I.C.S., who was Settlement Officer during the later stages of the operations in succession to Mr. J. H. Kerr, I.C.S. The operations extended over five years. Traverse survey was begun in the end of 1899 and case work was completed by the end of 1904. Cadastral survey, kharanpur and attestation were carried through under the supervision of Mr. Kerr. Objection work, rent settlement and case work were completed under Mr. Coupland's direction.

2. The district of Monghyr is cut into two portions by the river Ganges. This report deals mainly with the northern half which is contained in thanas Teghra and Begusarai of the Begusarai subdivision, and in thana Gogri of the Sadar subdivision. The total area of these three thanas is 1,546 square miles, of which thana Teghra covers 237, thana Begusarai 513, and thana Gogri 796 square miles. An area of 47 square miles belonging to the Narhan Estate and situated in thanas Teghra and Begusarai, which was surveyed and settled in 1895-96, and an area of 143 square miles, belonging to the Srinagar-Banaili Estate, and situated in thana Gogri, which was surveyed and settled in 1887-94, were excluded from the settlement operations now under review. On the other hand, the operations extended to an area of 57 square miles consisting of Government estates in thanas Monghyr, Surajgarh and Sheikhpara south of the river.

3. Mr. Coupland's report has a special interest for me, as I was Collector of Monghyr from November 1906 to July 1907 and during that time most of my attention was devoted to North Monghyr, the eastern half of which had just been desolated by the extraordinary floods of two successive years, the two years immediately following the close of settlement operations. The embankment problem which for want of information regarding the floods of these two years, Mr. Coupland has not gone into very deeply in his report, had become one of exceptional interest.

4. The western half of North Monghyr is occupied by the Begusarai subdivision. Of this about three-fourths is contained between the channel of the Bur Gandak and the Ganges and consists of the older alluvial deposits of these two rivers, well raised above their beds and comparatively immune from injurious inundation. The northern portion of thana Begusarai and almost the whole of thana Gogri which covers the eastern half of North Monghyr, is a lowlying tract which is singularly liable to destructive flood. The central portion of the former area is occupied by the Kabar Tal, a piece of water which covers at its greatest extent 7 square miles of country. Thana Gogri, which is traversed by the Eghmati and Tiljuga streams, is covered with a net work of

swamps which make North Monghyr one of the best duck-shooting grounds of Bengal.

5. The Bengal and North-Western Railway runs along the south of the three thanas, at an interval from the Ganges varying from about 12 miles to less than a mile. A branch line called the Mansi-Bhaptiahi extension which runs almost due north from Mansi and divides thana Gogri into two equal portions, has recently been constructed. The main line and its extension both run along high embankments and there has been much controversy regarding their effects on the drainage of North Monghyr and its liability to flood. There is a general consensus of opinion that the embankment of the main line is, on the whole, a blessing to the country, in that it protects the area north of the line from Ganges flood, and this opinion was supported by the evidence collected from raiyats by the officers of settlement. South and south-east of Begusarai town there is a large triangular area, confined between the Ganges and the railway. The existence of the railway embankment no doubt intensifies flood effects in this area, but the major portion of it is protected by the well known Gupta Bándh an old zamindari embankment which was repaired and strengthened in 1889-90, when Mr. Ashutosh (not Mr. K. G.) Gupta was Subdivisional Officer. This embankment has recently been taken over for permanent maintenance by Government under Bengal Act II of 1882. The rectangular area in south Gogri lying between the railway and the river, south of the Mansi and Maheshkunt stations, is similarly protected to some extent by the Gogri Bándh and the question of the improvement and maintenance of this embankment under Act II of 1882 was also under consideration while I was Collector. I am not aware what orders have since been passed. A former Collector, Mr. Duval, I.C.S., pleaded for more waterways in the main line embankment and in particular for a larger opening at the point where the Bur Gandak river is crossed by the railway, but his suggestions were opposed by the railway engineers and were not supported by the opinion of the Public Works engineer (Mr. B. Finnimore) deputed by Government to investigate the question.

6. The case of the Mansi-Bhaptiahi extension is more difficult. Its embankment runs straight across the natural drainage of Gogri thana and the sufficiency of its waterways is a matter of life and death to the cultivators. By an unfortunate coincidence, the two first years of its construction were marked by exceptional flood. In 1905 there were heavy local falls of rain which laid the whole country under water and breached the earth work of the line in many places. This was repeated in a more serious form in 1906, when the local floods were due to Sub-Himalayan rainfall. It will take many years of normal conditions to eradicate from the minds of the inhabitants of pargana Pharkiya that their misfortunes were not largely due to the construction of the new railway. As a matter of fact, it was found on enquiry that the allowance of waterway granted in 1906 was insufficient and a considerable increase had to be arranged for. Another branch line running obliquely across Gogri and Begusarai thanas from Khagaria in the former to Roserha in Darbhanga is under contemplation and had been surveyed before I left Monghyr. In this case also the question of waterways will be most important.

7. Zamindari embankments to which Mr. Coupland has referred in paragraph 7 of his report, are a source of much difficulty to the district officer. The greater portion of thana Gogri must, in my opinion, revert to the uncultivated condition in which it was seventy or a hundred years ago unless these petty embankments are maintained in such a state of efficiency as will protect the country from injurious flood in ordinary years. They are useless in years of exceptional flood like 1905 or 1906, but they give the cultivators confidence and make cultivation possible in the average year. When maintained at ordinary flood level, they do not, I think, seriously endanger the welfare of adjoining tracts. In the winter of 1907-08, about Rs. 20,000 was taken by the Bahadurpur, Shakarpura and Bakhtiarpur estates of pargana Pharkiya in the shape of Land Improvement loans and spent on the repair of estate embankments. The expenditure of this money not only improved the efficiency of the embankments, but also afforded relief to the impoverished cultivators and labourers who had suffered so severely from the loss of crop and destruction of houses attending the floods of 1905 and 1906.

8. The extent to which the three thanas under settlement are differentiated from one another by their liability to flood may be gathered from some of the statistics which are recorded in Chapter IV, Part II of the Report. The percentages of cultivation in Teghra, Begusarai and Gogri are respectively 79, 73, and 64, while the rental averages of settled and occupancy raiyats are Rs. 3-11-1, Rs. 3-6-9, and Rs. 2-6-9 per acre. The comparative immunity from famine of the three tracts is indicated according to Mr. Stevenson-Moore's formula by the figures 93 for Teghra, 87 for Begusarai, and 69 for Gogri. These figures are obtained by adding the *bhadoi* and *rabi* percentages and deducting the *agharai*, and they correspond fairly closely with the facts as known to us, for Teghra and Begusarai have been practically free from famine, while relief operations have occasionally been found necessary in thana Gogri.

9. The population of North Monghyr is just over one million, the average density per square mile being 673. As might be expected from the facts referred to in paragraph 8 above, there is considerable variation in density of population between the three thanas. Teghra with an average of 966 per square mile has probably attained its maximum. Begusarai has an average of 803, and Gogri 530 only. Hindus form 76 per cent. of the population. Mohamedans vary from 36 per cent. in Begusarai to 19 per cent. in Gogri and 12 per cent. in Teghra. The two most prominent castes in the area are Babhans and Goalas, both extremely litigious. The former preponderate in Teghra and Begusarai and the latter in thana Gogri. The most miserable section of the population is undoubtedly the Musahars who are congregated mainly in the swampy tracts of Gogri and gain their livelihood as labourers under the resident and non-resident cultivators.

10. In Chapter III, Part I of the Report, Mr. Coupland has given an interesting account of the fiscal history of the tract. Monghyr was not separated from Bhagalpur till 1832. Its northern half was constituted out of 8 parganas taken from the old district of Tirhut and one pargana taken from Bhagalpur. The former coincide with thanas Teghra and Begusarai and the latter with thana Gogri. Mr. Coupland has endeavoured to compare the parganawar assessments made by Todar Mall in 1582 with the demand and collections of the first British period 1765-1790 and with the assessments of the Permanent Settlement, but the figures are too incomplete to yield satisfactory conclusions. The 1582 assessment appears to have been nearly twice as high as that of 1790, but we know that in many tracts Todar Mall's assessment was rather an expectation than an actual achievement and this is singularly true of the Monghyr sircar, which included three of the nine parganas. At the Permanent Settlement a considerable proportion of the area claimed as revenue-free and jagir escaped assessment, but before the eight parganas of Tirhut had been transferred to Monghyr, the resumption proceedings of the previous 30 years had raised their revenues from one to two lakhs of rupees. During this period, little progress was made with resumption in pargana Pharkiya of Bhagalpur.

11. The history of pargana Pharkiya calls for special notice, as it had a considerable influence on the present settlement operations. In correspondence arising out of early revenue sales in this pargana, it was held that the Permanent Settlement did not extend to certain "Wyrana" villages or tracts of waste land which lay outside the ambit of the settled and cultivated villages. To demarcate these, a professional survey was carried out under the orders of the Board between 1835 and 1838, but it was confined to boundaries and had neither the accuracy nor the completeness of the Revenue Survey which passed over the rest of the district about 10 years later. The defects of the first professional survey of pargana Pharkiya added special difficulty to the decision of boundary disputes in the recent settlement. The resumption proceedings of Pharkiya carried on with vigour after the professional survey raised the revenue demand from Rs. 46,226 in 1795 to Rs. 88,039 in 1846. The demand which was progressive has since increased to Rs. 1,26,238. A curious feature of the land revenue settlement of pargana Pharkiya survives to the present day. Separate assessments called the "Bhaisunda Mahals" were made in respect of grazing fees, although these were realised over areas covered by the permanent settlement. The "Bhaisunda Mahals" are temporarily settled and as the waste land area contracts, increasing difficulty is found in obtaining volunteers for settlement. Mr. Coupland recommends that the

assessments be struck off the revenue-roll. As the amount is small and the anomaly is great, I join him in his recommendation.

12. The total revenue-demand of North Monghyr is now about $4\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of rupees, as against $3\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs in 1846 and $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs in 1795. The average incidence of revenue is about $6\frac{1}{2}$ annas per acre, which is higher than Darbhanga and Champaran and lower than Saran and Muzaffarpur. With it may be contrasted the average rental incidence which is nearly Rs. 3 per acre. In paragraph 311 of the Report, Mr. Coupland has shown that the assets of zamindars who pay Rs. 3,74,060 of the land revenue amount to no less a sum than Rs. 23,83,629.

13. Part II of the Report is devoted to the present operations. Thanas Teghra and Begusarai were notified under section 3 of the Survey Act (V of 1875) in October 1899. Thana Gogri was notified in November of the following year. Those notifications were necessary for the prosecution of the traverse survey. Simultaneously with them, notifications were issued under section 3, Act IX of 1847, in respect of the Gangetic channel lying between the southern boundaries of the three thanas and the right high bank of the Ganges. The object of these latter was to enable the Collector to utilize the new maps for the assessment of such new alluvial accretions as might be discovered in the course of survey. Settlement notifications under section 101 (1) of the Bengal Tenancy Act were issued in each case about a year after the notifications under the Survey Act. Additional notifications were rendered necessary by the exclusion of the Narhan and Srinagar-Banaili areas and by the extension of the work to Government estates south of the river. The Government estates were also notified under section 101 (2) (c) and (d) for purposes of land revenue settlement.

14. The traverse survey of 542 square miles in thanas Teghra and Begusarai was completed in 1899-00, of 747 square miles in thanas Teghra and Gogri in 1900-01 and of 207 square miles in thana Gogri and South Monghyr in 1901-02. The work in Gogri was impeded by the indifference of the landlords and tenants and by the difficulty of connecting up with the Srinagar-Banaili villages and of identifying the Government diara estates.

15. Cadastral survey and preliminary record-writing were completed for 733 square miles in 1900-01 and for 663 square miles in 1901-02. The difference of 100 square miles between the traverse total (1,496 square miles) and the cadastral total (1,396) is due to the fact that traverse stations had to be fixed some way inland from the south bank of the river for the sake of permanence. Maps were prepared on the usual scale of 16 inches to the mile. In thanas Teghra and Begusarai all village and town sites were prepared on the 64-inch scale. In thana Gogri the larger scale was only used where the ordinary scale would not have been sufficiently clear and this change resulted in a considerable economy.

The work of cadastral survey was done by the Survey of India Department and was adequately checked. Record-writing was done under the joint supervision of Survey and Settlement Officers. About 14 per cent. of the plots were tested by the latter.

16. One of the most difficult features of the work in thanas Teghra and Begusarai was the minute subdivision of proprietary interests. Mr. Coupland has noticed a case where this extended to $\frac{1}{2,320,000,000}$ of an anna. Another difficulty lay in the fact that the lands of two or more estates were often indistinguishable on the ground.

In both seasons areas wholesale attempts were made by proprietors to suppress the names of their raiyats. Careful enquiry was necessary to contend with this evil. The disposal of claims to revenue-free lands was also a work of much difficulty, as the Collector's revenue-free registers were admittedly incomplete, and very frequent reference to him was necessary.

17. Work on the whole was much simpler in Gogri than in Teghra and Begusarai, and this is shown by the comparative numbers of internal disputes filed in the three thanas. In the first season, they averaged 47 per square mile, in the second season 22 only. Disputes were disposed of partly by Assistant Settlement Officers and partly by Kanungos. The work of the latter was on the whole satisfactory, as evidenced by the results of re-scrutiny at attestation.

18. Boundary disputes numbered 794 and were comparatively most numerous in thana Gogri and in the diara tracts. Many of the Gogri cases arose in villages adjoining the Srinagar-Banaili estate. The proprietors of that estate wanted to have the maps of 1887-94 regarded as conclusive, when in their favour and memorialized Government on the subject. The principle was upheld that they should be accepted as conclusive evidence of possession as then existing, and merely presumptive evidence of title.

Mr. Coupland has cited several instances which show the intricate nature of the boundary disputes that arose in the course of the operations, and has discussed the difficulties that arise when boundary disputes have to be remanded for enquiry at the attestation stage or are re-opened or first instituted at that or later stages of the proceedings. He rightly dwells on the necessity of preparing a complete record at the khanapuri stage, and deprecates the opening of boundary disputes at attestation unless a strong *prima facie* case for re-enquiry is made out. Strict attention to the instructions contained in rules 5 to 11, Chapter IV, Part II, of the Survey and Settlement Manual (1900) should always be insisted upon.

The results of boundary appeals were highly creditable to the officers concerned. Nearly 20 per cent. of the boundary decisions were taken up on appeal. Only 9 out of 162 appeals were completely successful. The orders passed were modified in 19 cases only.

19. Thanas Teghra and Begusarai with 1,176 villages, 216,496 holdings and 796,821 plots were attested in 1901-02, and thana Gogri and the Government estates, 364 villages with 97,013 holdings and 487,642 plots, in the following year. Records were attested for 1,371 square miles as against 1,396 cadastrally surveyed. The difference is due to the fact that some areas lying outside the three thanas were surveyed by mistake as Government estates. The first season's work was extremely difficult. The disputes summarily decided at the record-writing stage were re-opened and in addition complicated disputes regarding rent and status came up for solution. Proprietors over-stated rents and raiyats under-stated them. Illegal cesses had to be disentangled from true rent. Different forms of produce rent had to be distinguished. The attempts made by proprietors to claim raiyati lands as private land and to oust their raiyats from cultivation had to be frustrated. The status of indigo factories in lands held by them formed a special difficulty, as lands of varying origin and held on varying tenures had been freely amalgamated by them. Mr. Coupland has given numerous illustrations of the difficulties that had to be overcome. These in addition to their interest from a settlement point of view, should be of the greatest value to the district staff, as affording an insight into the agrarian conditions of the district, which is not readily obtainable in the ordinary way.

20. On the Gogri side, disputes were less intricate but illegal dis-possession and suppression of raiyats were found to be very prevalent forms of proprietary misconduct. Two estates, Bahadurpur and Shakarpura, in which this was most marked, have recently come under the Court of Wards. In the Sonbarsa estate which includes some villages of Gogri, the practice of compelling raiyats to execute periodical leases at enhanced rates was first encountered. This is a practice which in the past season's operations has been found almost universally prevalent in the south of the district. The record of proprietary right in the Bhaishunda or grazing mahals, and of fishery right over the numerous jheels of Gogri thana was attended with considerable difficulty. Application was made for the preparation of records-of-right in respect of jagir lands situated in Srinagar-Banaili, but it was decided to leave them untouched, as the results would not have been commensurate with the trouble involved.

21. Nothing can be more commendable than the high standard of zeal, integrity and efficiency usually displayed by the officers to whom the important work of attestation is entrusted. As Mr. Coupland has pointed out, an attestation officer must not be content to merely settle the overt disputes that come to his notice in the course of his work. He must keep his eyes open and his mind alert for the detection of suppressed fraud and oppression, and particularly so, when he is attesting rents. Numerous instances have been quoted to show how well the attestation officers of North Monghyr

realized their duty in this respect. It is a matter for regret that there was one black spot in the second season's work. The records of one camp had to be re-attested and the officer in charge, Maulvi Amiruddin Ahmad, was dismissed from Government service on charges of dishonesty.

22. The settlement records were draft published as soon as attested and objections received under section 103A. The total number of objections was 22,427, or 16 per square mile. 27 per cent. of them were allowed in whole or part. Mr. Coupland particularly notices the unnecessary objections preferred in some estates regarding the record of homestead lands. These were recorded as rent-free portions of the holdings in which they were included, as it is the almost universal custom in Bihar that agricultural tenants enjoy their homesteads free of rent. The record of them as rent-free does not render them liable to assessment, nor does it separate them from the holdings to which they are attached. At this stage detailed maps and records were prepared for the portion of the Kabar Tal which is cultivated with paddy before the break of the rains and harvested from boats early in the cold weather.

23. The next stage is the preparation of the record for final publication. Mr. Coupland has included in his report a useful note of Pandit Rama Ballav Misra who was the officer in charge of the head-quarters office at Monghyr for nearly three years and has given an account of the enormous amount of labour that has to be expended on the records before they are finally published. At this stage a comparison of the settlement khewats with the Collector's land registers was started. The work proved to be one of considerable difficulty, as the land registers had fallen out of date and action was taken under section 65 of the Act (VII of 1876) and not under section 22 or section 28. The problem was seriously tackled by Mr. Oldham when he became Collector of Monghyr in 1904 and special establishments were sanctioned by the Board. The work was still in progress when I was Collector of Monghyr three years later. Its cost was more than covered by the fines realized under section 65 of the Act. The experience gained in Monghyr was afterwards utilized for similar work in North Bhagalpur. The subject engaged special attention in the recess of 1907 and was considered at the last Commissioners' Conference. In the past season's operations special precautions have been taken to ensure that discrepancies between the record of the land registers and the actual facts of possession shall be carefully investigated in the field and explained, and it is proposed that in future action shall be taken simultaneously under sections 28 and 65 to correct the land registers in accordance with the settlement khewats.

24. Final publication was spread over the three seasons—1901-02, 1902-03, and 1903-04. The suggestion which Mr. Coupland makes in paragraph 155 for the combination of final publication with the work of recovery deserves serious consideration. It would involve material alteration of paragraphs 79 to 81 of the Rules under the Bengal Tenancy Act published in Notification No. 2705T.R., dated the 31st October 1907.

25. The number of rent settlement applications under section 105 was comparatively small. Fair rents were actually settled for only 20 out of over 1,000 holdings attested. As Mr. Coupland points out, it is chiefly the big landlords who apply for rent settlement and they are conspicuous by their absence in thanas Teghra and Begusarai. The average enhancement in the cases that came up for settlement was 4.66 per cent. only, and the bulk of the enhancement was allowed in thana Gogri on the ground of excess area. The total rent-roll of the district was increased by .22 per cent. only. Appeals to the Special Judge were filed in 35 cases out of 478 decided and in the great majority of the cases, the orders of the lower Courts were upheld.

26. There were 325 applications for commutation under section 40 of the Bengal Tenancy Act. They were allowed in 174 cases, the average rent settled being Rs. 2.11 per acre.

27. The total number of cases filed under section 106 was 1,202 only, equal to 0.38 per cent. of the total number of holdings. The very small proportion of cases, as compared with other North Bihar districts, is ascribed by Mr. Coupland to the fact that landlords preferred to take their claims to illegal rents and the disputes that had been given against them at previous stages, into the Civil Courts where they naturally hoped for a greater measure of success. That their hopes were justified by the result was proved by Mr. W. H. Vincent,

Special Judge, who found in the course of inspection of Munsifs' Courts, that many civil suits claiming in contravention of the settlement records had been decided in the landlords' favour either *ex parte* or on compromises which the officers of settlement would probably have refused to accept.

Since the Monghyr operations were completed, alterations have been made in the Bengal Tenancy Act by the amending Act I of 1907, which will reduce the chances of success of litigants who hope to get from the Civil Court what they are not likely to gain from the Settlement Court. Section 147B has emphasized the regard to be paid by the Civil Court to the records, and the additions made to section 148 have increased the difficulty of circumventing the record. At the same time pains are being taken to train up the younger generation of Munsifs in the procedure of settlement. Those who have had the advantage of the special training sanctioned by Government and the Hon'ble High Court appreciate the care and labour that are spent on the preparation of the record and know what value it has in its final shape. The enactment of section 109C has also given the officers of settlement a freer hand to accept compromises which, though not strictly legal if embodied in a contract between the parties, are yet in all the circumstances of the case, fair and equitable.

28. Out of the 1,202 cases, appeals to the Special Judge were filed in 180 cases. The orders of the lower Courts were upheld in 128 cases. In 30 of the 49 cases in which orders were reversed, the disputes related to timber rights. The tree question had not hitherto assumed much importance. In more recent settlements fuller enquiry is made and a more complete record of rights in trees is prepared.

29. A separate chapter of the report has been devoted to the Government estates that came under settlement in the course of the operations. Thirty-two estates in North Monghyr with an area of 95 square miles were taken up in the ordinary course. Special arrangements were made for the survey and settlement of 47 estates with an area of 57 square miles lying south of the river. Of the Government estates, some are managed direct, some are farmed and some are temporarily settled. The most important are diara estates resumed under Regulation II of 1819. The largest are Arazi Bhawanandpur, Jafarnagar, Mahazi Bhawanandpur, and Akbarpur Barari in Begusarai with an aggregate area of 27 square miles, Binda Diara in Gogri covering 43 square miles, and in the same thana the inland estates of Goas, Dhanupra, Agar, and Cherakhora with areas of 3, 5, 3½ and 7 square miles respectively, the diara estates, Kutlupur 20 square miles, Tarapur 13 square miles and Zamin Digri 9 square miles in Monghyr thana and Rahatpur Diara in Surajgarh with an area of 3 square miles. Mr. Coupland has noticed some of the difficulties that arose over the identification of Government estates, the disposal of boundary disputes, the record of status and in temporarily-settled estates, the ascertainment of existing rents.

30. The most important work in connection with Government estates was the settlement of rents under section 104. In all diara estates and in inland estates which possessed rates, the first step taken was to prepare soil classification maps. The Assistant Settlement Officer had then, taking into account existing rates and the capabilities of the soil, to submit his proposals for rent assessment. When these had been accepted by the Settlement Officer and the Collector, they were worked out in detailed schedules which showed their effect on individual rents. The raiyats were then called in and had the new rates and rents explained to them. Objections were enquired into before the rent-rolls were framed and finally published.

In the vast majority of cases the tenants accepted the rents proposed, and the number of rent objections which came up under section 104E, was only 512, as against 11,758 holdings for which rents were settled. Of these again 418 came from one estate, Arazi Bhawanandpur, in which the raiyats made an untenable claim to hold at fixed rents. Progressive enhancement was allowed in all cases of considerable increase. The rent-rolls were next confirmed by the Settlement Officer and incorporated in the draft record-of-rights for final publication. Only 14 appeals under section 104G were filed and of these only 2 were allowed.

In estates managed direct, the effect of the new rent-settlement was to increase the rent-roll from Rs. 53,319 to Rs. 64,518, or by 21 per cent., and

the incidence of revenue became Rs. 2-6-9 per acre. Assuming no alteration in allowances to settlement-holders and farmers, the revenue of temporarily-settled estates was increased from Rs. 36,235 to Rs. 44,451, or by 22 per cent., and of farmed estates from Rs. 14,371 to Rs. 19,847, or by 37 per cent. There had been no alteration in the revenue demand of these two latter classes of estates for periods varying from 20 to 30 years, and the incidence of the new revenue was Re. 1-10-9 and Re. 1-12-7 respectively. The total increase of revenue was less than 24 per cent., and the average incidence of revenue Rs. 2-0-1 per acre.

31. Of the total number of holdings in Government estates, 68 per cent. have been recorded with rights of occupancy, three-fourths of these being diara holdings occupied for more than 12 years continuously; 31 per cent. have been recorded as non-occupancy, the majority of which are also diara. Mr. Coupland draws attention to the status difficulty that arose from the practice, once common in Monghyr, of granting large speculative leases of unculturable diara to residents of Monghyr who had no intention of cultivating for themselves but took these leases at low rates in the hope of being able to make a profit by sub-leasing later at high rates. I remember being overwhelmed with applications for similar grants while Collector of Monghyr, but rarely sanctioned the lease of more than 15 bighas to any individual tenant and it was always made a condition of the lease that the applicant should cultivate himself or by his servants or hired labour. The terms of the original lease made it necessary in some cases for the officers of settlement to record speculative tenure-holders as raiyats and this accounts for the number of under-raiyati tenancies recorded.

32. Mr. Coupland compares the three systems of management followed in Government estates, and recommends the adoption of direct management, wherever possible, coupled with avoidance of the practice referred to in the last paragraph. He also emphasizes the necessity for proper maintenance of the records, a work which is of paramount importance in diara estates whose rates and rents demand almost annual revision, if the burden of assessment is to be kept even.

33. The ascertainment of the average cost-rate of the operations is complicated by two circumstances. In the first place records were finally published for 1,371 square miles only, whereas 1,496 square miles were traversed, and 1,395 sq. miles were cadastrally surveyed. In the second place, there was no separate budget for Government estates till 1902-03, when more than half the work had been completed, and the settlement of Government estates moreover differed from the general operations, in that it included proceedings under section 104 and excluded case work under sections 105 and 106 and the processes of computation and recovery. Mr. Coupland has made the best of the difficulty by working out cost-rates for the different stages of the work calculated over the areas concerned. These total to Rs. 478-2-1 per square mile, but of this amount Rs. 453 only is applicable to Government estates, and Rs. 425 only to ordinary areas. On the basis of these figures, Mr. Coupland determines that out of a total expenditure of Rs. 6,13,095, Rs. 68,856 is debitable to Government estates and Rs. 5,44,239 to the rest of the operations. The average incidence of cost taken over the whole finally published area is Rs. 448 per square mile, which is Rs. 28 in excess of the so-called 'normal cost-rate,' but is Rs. 42 less than the cost-rate of Darbhanga, and Rs. 53 less than the cost-rate of Saran. The cost-rate of Muzaffarpur was lower by Rs. 73. If Government estates be excluded and allowance be made for the excess areas traversed and cadastrally surveyed, the Monghyr rate exceeds the normal cost-rate by Rs. 5 only.

In the sub-heads of cost-rate, the most noticeable feature is the heaviness of the general supervision charge and Mr. Coupland is inclined to ascribe this to a disproportionate distribution of these charges between the three districts, Darbhanga, North Monghyr, and North Bhagalpur, in which settlement operations were being conducted simultaneously.

34. The total cost debitable to private estates is Rs. 5,44,239. After deducting Court and process fees and miscellaneous receipts and the one-fourth share of costs borne by Government, the balance recoverable from landlords and tenants is Rs. 3,74,012. Costs were computed at a rate of 9 annas 9 pies

per acre, and the amount actually recovered was Rs. 3,70,784, leaving a small deficit of Rs. 3,200, which may fairly be set against the excess traverse costs of Government estates and the cost of preparing records for District Board, Railway and Government lands. To the excellent organization of Babu Nilmoni De, Mr. Coupland ascribes the success of the recovery work which was carried through at a cost of Rs. 15,050, equal to 4 per cent. of the amount recovered, and without resort to the certificate procedure except as regards 4 per cent. of the demand, mainly due from landlords.

35. Chapter IV, Part II, of the Report is devoted to a discussion of the statistics compiled during the settlement. They have been combined with the figures available for the Narhan and Srinagar-Banaili settlements in order to present a complete picture for North Monghyr. The largest village has an area of 43 sq. miles, the smallest is only one-sixth of an acre. The average holding is 2.9 acres and the average plot .7 of an acre.

The percentage of uncultivated area is 31, which is higher than in any North Bihar district hitherto settled. This is due to the backward state of cultivation in Gogri thana which has an uncultivated percentage of 36. Thana Teghra with a percentage of 21 is practically on a level with Darbhanga, Muzaffarpur and Saran. The advance which has been made by thana Gogri or pargana Pharkiya during the past 70 years may be gathered from the fact that at the time of the Revenue Survey, it was only 35 per cent. cultivated. About one-eleventh of Teghra, one-ninth of Begusarai and one-sixth of Gogri have been recorded as culturable. Amongst unculturable areas, the large proportion occupied by water is noticeable. Water covers more than one-twentieth of Teghra, one-tenth of Begusarai and no less than one-eighth of Gogri.

36. The *rabi* crop is predominant in all thanas. It averages 66 per cent. for the whole cropped area. *Bhadai* crops come next with a percentage of 43, and *aghani* crops last with a percentage of 29. The percentage of the last named is only 19 in Teghra. More than one-third of the cultivated area is twice cropped. The irrigated area is only 3 per cent. of the whole and is negligible except in Gogri, where water is taken from the jheels to irrigate about one-tenth of the rice-growing land. The food-crops grown are in order of importance, maize 21 per cent., rice 21 per cent., wheat 15 per cent., gram 10 per cent., barley 9 per cent., marua 6 per cent. and amongst the miscellaneous crops, potatoes and chillies which flourish in Teghra and Begusarai. The proportions of the different crops vary much from thana to thana. Maize, for example, is 28 per cent. in Teghra and only 14 per cent. in Gogri, while rice is 30 per cent. in Gogri and only 7 per cent. in Teghra. Amongst the non-food crops, the most important are oilseeds, indigo and tobacco. The last-named is likely to receive increased attention since the Peninsular Tobacco Company has erected a large factory in Monghyr town.

37. The total number of life-stock in North Monghyr, excluding the Srinagar-Banaili area for which figures are not available, is nearly 4 lakhs, as against a population of one million for the same area. The proportion is much higher than in Darbhanga or Saran and is to be ascribed to the existence of extensive grazing lands in thana Gogri.

There are 53 ploughs and 7 carts for every square mile of cultivated land. These figures also are higher than the corresponding figures of Darbhanga.

38. Of the total area of North Monghyr, about 1 per cent. is held by Government or public bodies, 21 per cent. is unoccupied, and 78 per cent. is occupied, that is, included in the khatians of proprietors' and tenure-holders' private cultivation, and of raiyats.

Proprietors and tenure-holders hold direct 13 per cent. of the occupied area, raiyats with secure rights 81½ per cent., rent-free holders 1 per cent., and raiyats with insecure rights 4½ per cent. Of the land held by proprietors, only 619 acres or less than .1 per cent. of the occupied area has been recorded as true private land or *zirat*. The proportion of non-occupancy raiyats is larger than in other North Bihar districts. This is due partly to the largeness of the diara area and partly to recent extension of cultivation in pargana Pharkiya. Occupancy holdings as usual cover far and away the largest proportion of the occupied area. They vary in average size from 1.36 acres in Teghra to 1.80

acres in Begusarai and 3.56 acres in Gogri and average for the whole area 2.21 acres. Under-raiyats hold $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the occupied area and, as Mr. Coupland remarks, there is nothing to show that raiyati interests are to any large extent being acquired by non-agriculturists and sublet to the actual cultivators.

39. Mr. Coupland gives in paragraphs 285—288 of his Report some interesting figures illustrative of the extent to which proprietary interests have been subdivided, a point already touched upon. While the Collector's registers show 4,367 estates in North Monghyr, the total number of khewat entries was 16,083, and the total number of recorded proprietors 83,410. Mr. Coupland infers that the average proprietor's interest is represented by 12 acres, of which 8 are cultivated. But for the inclusion of Gogri, the average interest would be represented by a much smaller area, and Mr. Coupland concludes that in respect of minute subdivision of proprietary interest, Teghra and Begusarai easily surpass the rest of North Bihar. The effective maintenance of the Collector's Land Registers becomes under these conditions a work of extreme difficulty. The work of revenue collection is also materially increased and one of the advantages sought by the Permanent Settlement destroyed. It is unfortunate that the law does not impose a premium of 5 or 10 per cent., as a condition of partition, to compensate for the increased labour of registration and cost of collection.

40. From a settlement point of view the simplicity of tenures in North Monghyr was some compensation for the intricacy of proprietary interests. There was no complicated sub-infeudation, such as is common in Lower Bengal.

Rent-free tenures covered 2 per cent. of the area, and rent-paying 19 per cent. The average is low compared with other North Bihar districts.

The great majority of the rent-paying tenures were temporary. Only 2 per cent. of the total area is covered by permanent rent-paying tenures.

Most of the rent-free tenures were religious grants. Under-tenures covered only 1 per cent. of the total area and most of them were temporary.

41. The percentage of raiyati area held on produce rent varied from 3 per cent. in Gogri to 7 per cent. in Begusarai and 10 per cent. in Teghra. Mr. Coupland ascribes the large proportion in Begusarai and Teghra to the prevalence in these thanas of petty landlords who when they buy in raiyat's holdings, usually lease them out on produce rents, and erroneously expect thereby to preserve them as private lands. Four forms of produce rents, viz., *batai*, *bhaoli*, *mankhap*, and *manhunda*, are described. The two former are shares of the crop grown, the two latter are fixed quantities of grain. Needless to say the latter are much the more oppressive. Mr. Coupland has given in paragraph 114 a specimen of a *mankhap* contract which can only be described as monstrous.

42. The incidence of the different classes of raiyati cash rents is compared in paragraphs 301-5 of the Report. The averages are lower than in other North Bihar districts, but this is due to the strikingly low rates of Gogri. Thanas Teghra and Begusarai are more nearly on a level with adjoining districts. The averages vary much from estate to estate. They are lenient in the case of indigo factories. The incidence of raiyati rent in Government estates is below the general average. The general experience of attestation officers was that during the 15 years preceding these operations, attempts had been made almost universally to enhance raiyati rents. Had not illegal enhancements been disallowed, the general incidence of rents would have been higher, and Mr. Coupland rightly thinks that the settlement operations came on at an opportune moment from the raiyat's point of view.

43. Mr. Coupland does not anticipate any large increase of assets at the next road cess revaluation of North Monghyr. The revaluation of 1896-97 gave a total of Rs. 24,80,228. The estimate now prepared amounts to Rs. 23,83,629, exclusive of bazar rents and other miscellaneous sources of income not strictly agricultural. The exclusion of illegal enhancements probably accounts for the apparent absence of growth.

44. Statistics of transfers of proprietary right were compiled for 311 selected villages covering one-third of North Monghyr. It was found that about one-eighth of the area affected had changed hands within the previous

10 years. The average price paid was Rs. 38 per acre, but varied between the wide limits of Rs. 2 and Rs. 673.

45. More interesting are the statistics which deal with the transfer of occupancy rights. These were compiled for the whole area, but in my opinion, are seriously vitiated by the fact that the recorded sales ordinarily include only those cases in which the transferees have not been recognized by the landlord. Taking the figures as they stand, we find that only $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the total raiyati area had been transferred. This area is almost equally divided between mortgages and sales. Thirteen per cent. of the transferees are shown as landlords, 2 per cent. as lawyers, 14 per cent. as money-lenders and 71 per cent. as raiyats. The percentage of landlords and money-lenders is higher than in Darbhanga or Saran and the large proportion of landlords is no doubt due to the prevalence of petty proprietors in Teghra and Begusarai. But no more reliance can be placed on the distribution of transferees than on the extent of the area transferred, for many of the purchasers classed as raiyats should probably have been classed as money-lenders. I have found in the course of inspection that when a transfer is made in favour of a money-lender who has a raiyati holding, he is usually classed as a raiyat and not as a money-lender. The average price per acre realized on sales was Rs. 49, and on mortgages Rs. 66, the variation in individual cases ranging from Rs. 2 to Rs. 265. The mortgage average is higher than the sale average, probably because mortgages are usually executed on the choicest portions of raiyats' holdings. Throughout the area as a whole the custom of transfer may be said to obtain, subject to the payment of *salami* to the landlord for his recognition of the transferee. A notable exception is the Sonbarsa estate, where the late Maharaja refused to recognize transferees and where in consequence not a single case of sale or mortgage was recorded.

From the facts before him Mr. Coupland infers that the custom of transfer in North Monghyr is not attended with mischievous results. On the contrary, it is a boon to the raiyat because it saves him from the probable alternative of forfeiting his holding to his landlord and taking it back at a rack-rent. In my opinion the information is not sufficiently complete to build conclusions upon. We do not know fully what area has been transferred, nor do we rightly know into whose hands the transferred land is passing. We could judge the situation better if we knew from settlement to settlement or at intervals of a generation how the number of landless labourers fluctuated and whether there was any marked increase in the number of raiyats' holding on produce rents or in the number of under-raiyats.

46. Mr. Coupland estimates the holding of the average cultivating family in North Monghyr at $4\frac{1}{2}$ acres, yielding a return of Rs. 94 if cultivated by outside labour and of Rs. 141 if cultivated by the members of the family. As the minimum subsistence holding is estimated at $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres, the average cultivator has a considerable margin to come and go upon. He thus sums up his conclusions regarding the material condition of the agricultural classes. "The cultivator in Teghra and Begusarai is well off in spite of high rents and extreme pressure of population on the soil, because the soil is highly productive, and specially favourable to the growth of the more valuable autumn and spring crops; in Gogri rents are low, but land is abundant and gives a fair return without any great expenditure of money in cultivation. In both areas the effects of bad seasons more or less counterbalance one another, and even floods which sweep away or ruin hundreds of acres of autumn crops have their compensating advantage in an improved spring crop."

47. The chapter on indigo factories in North Monghyr is the record of a dying industry. Of 10 factories and 23 outworks existing in 1901-02, 3 factories and 9 outworks have since closed down. Excluding the Narhan estate, the area in Teghra and Begusarai under indigo in 1901 was 15,026 acres. Of this about one-tenth was grown by tenants on behalf of the factories. The total area cultivated by the factories was 15,449 acres, and of this nearly 2,000 acres was apparently cultivated with crops other than indigo, showing that planters had begun even then to direct attention to fresh sources of income.

Indigo-planters are the principal tenure-holders of the Begusarai subdivision and are interested as landlords or tenants in not less than 13 per cent.

of its total area. Their interests are secure in $43\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the area held by them. The remainder is held on temporary lease. Mr. Coupland thinks that the salvation of the planter lies in the direction of sugarcane cultivation, or the production of suitable fibre crops, as he cannot well compete with the native cultivator as a grower of country produce. I understand that there has been during the past year some revival of indigo prices and that the introduction of new methods has curtailed the cost of production. Whether this improvement of prospect will be of a lasting nature, remains to be seen. The number of ruined factory buildings which meet the eye of the officer on tour in North Monghyr is certainly a melancholy sight.

48. In his concluding chapter, Mr. Coupland argues strongly for maintenance of the records prepared at so much trouble and expense. The subject of maintenance is at present engaging the serious attention of Government and much will depend on the result of the experiment that has lately been inaugurated in the temporarily-settled districts of Orissa. Mr. Kerr's recommendations in the Darbhanga Report favoured rather periodical revision than annual maintenance. The former is certainly necessary if any check is to be placed on the attempts that have already been made and will continue to be made on the part of landlords of the less scrupulous sort, to circumvent the record and trample on the rights of their tenantry.

49. Mr. Coupland selects, for special mention among his assistants, Pandit Rama Bullabh Misra and Babu Nilmoni De. He also acknowledges the good work done by Maulvi Ashfaq Hossein, Maulvi Ahmad Ali and Babus Hemanta Kumar Maitra, Khetra Bhusan Prasad, Charu Chandra Kumar, and Rampada Chatarji. Mr. Monahan, as Assistant Settlement Officer in charge, was of invaluable assistance to Mr. Coupland throughout the later stages of the operations. From him and Pandit Rama Bullabh Misra, Mr. Coupland derived the greatest help in preparing the Final Report. Messrs. Lister and Gourlay were Assistant Settlement Officers in charge during the earlier stages of the work, and their work, though not coming under Mr. Coupland's personal observation, was proved by its results to be of a thorough and efficient order. Mr. Coupland acknowledges the assistance that he received from Messrs. Lyon, Allen and Maddox who successively held the post of Director of Land Records during the operations, from Major Crichton, Superintendent of Provincial Surveys, Bengal, and from Mr. Oldham who was Collector of the district in the last year of the work.

The special thanks of the Board and of Government are due to Mr. Kerr who saw the work started and carried it successfully through as far as the attestation stage, and to Mr. Coupland himself for his careful supervision of the later stages of the work and for the present report which is full of interest and of valuable suggestions.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

H. McPIERSON,

Director of the Department of Land Records, Bengal.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

LAND REVENUE.

CALCUTTA, THE 21ST NOVEMBER 1908.

RESOLUTION—No. 4553.

READ—

The Final Report on the Survey and Settlement Operations in North Monghyr.
Letter No. 1862, dated the 30th June 1908, from the Director of Land Records,
submitting the Report.

THIS report, which deals with the survey and settlement operations carried out in that portion of the district of Monghyr which lies to the north of the Ganges and in certain Government estates south of the river, has been submitted by Mr. H. Coupland, I.C.S. Traverse survey was commenced in October 1899, and cadastral survey and initial record-writing and attestation were done under the supervision of Mr. J. H. Kerr, I.C.S., Settlement Officer of North Bihar. Mr. Coupland succeeded him in April 1903 and was in charge until the completion of the operations in October 1904. The report follows the general lines of those on the survey and settlement of Saran and Darbhanga. To a great extent the same procedure was adopted in the settlement; the same series of practical difficulties were experienced, and the discussion of subjects of general interest in the final reports of those districts is, for the most part, equally relevant to the area dealt with in the present report.

2. The settlement of North Monghyr was taken up for reasons similar to those which led to the survey and settlement of the four districts of North Bihar comprised in the

Features of the work.

Patna Division, and the present report discloses a state of things much the same as that which was commented on in paragraph 2 of the Resolution (No. 1473T.—R., dated the 20th June 1904), on the final report for Darbhanga. Generally, the evils that were met with were the illegal enhancements of rents, the illegal dispossession of raiyats, and rack-renting at exorbitant produce rates. In the area owned by the Sonbarsa estate of the district of Bhagalpur the practice was first encountered of compelling raiyats to periodically execute revised agreements at enhanced rents. In another large area owned by Ram Bahadur Singh and his uncle Udit Narayan Singh (now under the Court of Wards), there was wholesale concealment, and, in several cases, the actual dispossession of raiyats. In the village of Rani, the tenants of 677 bighas of land were admitted to occupation on condition that they executed contracts to pay produce-rents under the system known as *mankhap*. The fixed quantity of produce to be paid as rent was five to six maunds, and the following extract from the Settlement Officer's report shows how oppressive the terms were:—

"The peculiarity of these agreements was, however, that the produce-rent was calculated in terms of special crops, such as chilia, tobacco, wheat, maize, etc., and it was stipulated that where the tenant did not grow these particular crops, payment was still to be made at their equivalent in money, subject to a modest maximum of Rs. 50 per bigha in case the value of these crops happened to be excessively high. A further stipulation was that, if the tenant cultivated the land, or allowed it to be cultivated with indigo, he should pay an annual rent of Rs. 100."

In this case the landlord had obtained possession of the lands from an indigo factory. Under the law he was entitled either to cultivate them himself

or to let them to tenants at such rates as they were willing to pay. The lands are situated in thana Teghra, where the population is 966 to the square mile, and the limits of cultivation have practically been reached. The average rent incidence for the thana is Rs. 3-11, and the difference between that rate and the value of the *mankhap* rates roughly indicates the effect of the Bengal Tenancy Act in restraining rack-renting in densely populated districts. It is this enormous difference between the statutory rent and the rack-rent which constitutes the chief incitement to illegality; and the recent great advance in the value of food-grains has increased that difference, and the consequent temptation to the landlords. In the western portion of the area, estates have been so subdivided that many landlords cannot live on their shares of the rent, and are exposed to an additional temptation to gain possession of the land. The preparation of the record-of-rights has had the double effect of educating the cultivators in their rights, and of giving them title-deeds thereto, though the unfortunate procedure adopted in rent and title-suits by some members of the local judiciary at the close of the settlement, which incidentally resulted in the amendment of the Tenancy Act, to some extent diminished the value of the settlement to the cultivators. It is clear that the struggle between landlord and tenant is still undecided, and that the development of the economical situation will have to be carefully watched, and possibly, after an interval, tested by a fresh settlement; for the growth of rack-renting in a population which is practically solely dependent on agriculture for the means of life could only result in agrarian discontent comparable to that which disturbed Ireland for fifty years.

3. The three thanas of North Monghyr, viz., Teghra, Begusarai and Gogri, comprise a total area of 1,546 square miles, of which 190 square miles, that had previously been

General Statistics.

dealt with in connection with the survey and settlement of the Narhan and Srinagar-Banaili estates, were excluded from the operations. Including Government estates on the south of the Ganges, the total area covered by the traverse survey is 1,596 square miles. The cadastral survey extended over 1,497 square miles, and records were finally published for 1,371 square miles. The average density of population in North Monghyr is 673 per square mile, but there is considerable variation amongst the component thanas. In Teghra the population has reached the very high figure of 966 per square mile, as against 901 in Saran. The corresponding figures for Begusarai and Gogri are 803 and 530, respectively. Hindus form 76 per cent. of the population and the two prominent castes are Babhans and Goalas, whose quarrelsome habits and love of litigation added considerably to the difficulties of the task of the Assistant Settlement Officers. In North Monghyr, taken as a whole, 69 per cent. of the land is under cultivation, but thana Teghra, with an uncultivated area of only 21 per cent., is practically on a level with Darbhanga, Muzaffarpur and Saran. Begusarai comes next with 27 per cent., while Gogri has 36 per cent. of its area still uncultivated. About one-eleventh of Teghra, one-ninth of Begusarai and one-sixth of Gogri have been recorded as culturable, but not cultivated. North Monghyr does not depend much on winter rice which occupies only 21 per cent. of the total cropped area. *Rabi* or spring crops predominate in all thanas and average 66 per cent. of that area, and *bhadoi* or autumn crops average 43 per cent., more than one-third of the cultivated area being twice cropped. Although, therefore, at least 70 per cent. of the population depends directly on agriculture, North Monghyr is less liable to suffer from a failure of the monsoon than tracts where winter rice is the only or the principal crop.

4. The 1,653 villages comprised in the area average rather less than a square mile in extent, the largest village, Binda Diara, covering 43 square miles, and the smallest, Arazi Panapur, only one-sixth of an acre. The average size of a holding was found to be 2.9 acres and of a plot .7 of an acre. In Darbhanga holdings averaged just over 2 acres, and plots two-fifths of an acre. Extreme subdivision of proprietary interests, which added greatly to the difficulties of the settlement work, was found to prevail in thanas Teghra and Begusarai, the smallest recorded subdivision of an estate being $\frac{1}{2,480,000,000}$ of a one-sixteenth share.

5. The occupied area of 78 per cent. is less than that of Muzaffarpur (88 per cent.), Saran or Darbhanga (86 per cent.). Settled and occupancy raiyats and raiyats at fixed rates hold 81·52 per cent. of the occupied area, as against 85 in Darbhanga. Proprietors and tenure-holders hold direct 13 per cent., rent-free-holders 1 per cent., and raiyats with insecure rights 4·5 per cent. The proportion of the last named, which is larger than in other North Bihar districts previously dealt with, is due to a proportionately larger extent of *diara* area and to recent extension of cultivation in the swamps of Gogri. Under-raiyats hold 2½ per cent. of the occupied area. As usual, occupancy holdings form the vast majority, and it is observed that there is little to show that raiyati interests are to any great extent being transferred to non-agriculturists for the purpose of sub-letting. In thanas Teghra and Begusarai, which surpass the rest of North Bihar in point of minute subdivision of proprietary interests, 4 and 5 acres, respectively, represent the average extent of the individual proprietor's estate. In thana Gogri each proprietor's interest averages 69 acres. There is, fortunately for the settlement and registration officers, no complicated sub-infeudation, such as is common in Lower Bengal.

6. Occupancy-raiyats paying cash rents in North Monghyr pay on an average Rs. 2-15-4 per acre, as compared with Rs. 3-12-3 in Muzaffarpur, Rs. 4-5-4 in Saran, Rs. 1-14-11 in Champaran and Rs. 3-12 in Darbhanga. But the comparative lowness of the rates is due to the inclusion of Gogri, where physical difficulties have retarded the spread of cultivation. In Teghra and Begusarai the rates approximate to Bihar standards. As might be expected rents are highest under petty proprietors and native farmers, and are fairly lenient under indigo factories. Under-raiyats in the two western thanas pay about Rs. 5 an acre, which exceeds the rates in Darbhanga and Muzaffarpur and is only slightly less than in Saran. Including the value of produce-rents and of the nett produce of the area under direct cultivation, the total assets of the zamindars in North Monghyr are calculated at Rs. 23,83,629. The Government revenue payable thereon is Rs. 3,74,060. The incidences per acre are Rs. 2-9-9 and annas 6-7 respectively. The zamindars thus enjoy 85 per cent. of the assets.

7. Most of the land in North Monghyr is owned by petty proprietors, and, in consequence, the applications for the settlement of fair rents were comparatively few. Rents were settled in respect of only 1·98 per cent. of the total number of raiyati holdings. The enhancement over the existing rental amounted to 4·66 per cent. Of the total enhancement 77 per cent. was on the ground of increase in area of the holding. In no case was the rate of rent increased in thanas Teghra and Begusarai. Petty proprietors are seldom in a position to prove a prevailing rate, and enhancements prior to the settlement had been so frequent and in many cases so recent that it was impossible for the landlords to obtain any further increase on the ground of a rise in prices. Tenants in their turn did not take much advantage of the opportunity of having rents reduced under section 52 (b) of the Bengal Tenancy Act.

8. The temporarily-settled and Government estates settled in the course of the survey and record-of-rights number 79, comprising an aggregate area of 152 square miles. Forty-five of these are *diaras* or recent alluvial formations. The results of the settlement of fair rents, so far as cash rents are concerned, are as follows:—

		INCIDENCE OF RENT PER ACRE.	
	Area in acres.	Existing.	Settled.
		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
(1) Tenure-holders	14,986	0 15 2	0 14 2
(2) Tenants holding under Govern- ment or settlement-holders or farmers	43,201	2 8 1	2 14 11
(3) Tenants holding under tenure- holders	519	3 2 5	3 11 1
(4) Under-tenants	902	1 4 8	2 2 0

In the vast majority of cases the rents proposed were accepted by the tenants and they are generally below the rates prevailing in private estates. But the value of such comparisons, and even of a comparison of the old and new rents of the estates themselves, is considerably modified by the fact that a very considerable proportion of the area is subject to the effects of fluvial action. The Lieutenant-Governor is satisfied that the enhancements made were fully justified. In all cases of considerable increase progressive enhancement was allowed. The existing Government revenue demand has been raised from Rs. 1,03,925 to Rs. 1,28,818, the increase being rather less than 24 per cent. The incidence of revenue per acre has risen from Rs. 1-9-10 to Rs. 2-0-1. The settlement of these estates is confirmed by the Lieutenant-Governor.

9. Cultivators of North Monghyr are better off than those of the adjoining district of Darbhanga, which depends to a dangerous degree on a single crop, namely, winter rice. In thanas Teghra and Begusarai high rents and extreme pressure of population on the soil are counterbalanced by a highly productive soil, specially favourable to the growth of the more valuable autumn and spring crops; while in Gogri rents are low and land is abundant and gives a fair return without any great expenditure of money on cultivation. The estimated holding of the average cultivating family is about $4\frac{1}{2}$ acres, which is much above the theoretical minimum subsistence holding of $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres. The statistics of indebtedness which were collected, point, with all their imperfections, to a degree of solvency superior to that of adjoining Bihar districts.

10. The total cost of the operations amounted to Rs. 6,13,095 of which Rs. 5,44,239 are chargeable to the permanently-settled zamindari estates, and the remaining Rs. 68,856 to the temporarily-settled and Government estates. The average incidence of cost over the 1,371 square miles in respect of which a record-of-rights was prepared has been calculated at Rs. 447-15-6 of which Rs. 185-13-4 would represent the charge for traverse and cadastral survey and Rs. 262-2-2 for settlement. But for an excess area of 225 square miles traversed and of 126 square miles cadastrally surveyed, the cost rate for the survey work, it is reported, would have come to Rs. 167-6-9. The expenditure on the settlement portion of the work was augmented by the comparatively small area dealt with and by the special difficulties in thanas Teghra and Begusarai which were anticipated and provided against by the employment of a specially selected and strong staff. The total cost rate, which comes to annas 11-2 per acre, is about the same as in Saran and Darbhanga, but is considerably higher than the rates of Muzaffarpur (annas 8-8) and Champaran (annas 6-6). The Lieutenant-Governor is satisfied that the operations were carried out as economically as was possible under the circumstances.

11. The results of the recovery operations proved as satisfactory as in other North Bihar districts, and are a sure indication of the value attached by the people to the record-of-rights. The total amount apportioned to landlords and tenants of the permanently-settled estates, who numbered over $3\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, was Rs. 3,70,784. It was collected in less than two years, the assesses displaying great eagerness to obtain the extracts from the record-of-rights for the small sums assessed on their holdings. Occupiers paid 99-98 per cent. of the demand against them without compulsion. Recourse to the certificate procedure was found necessary only in respect of 4 per cent. of the total demand, and this was almost entirely confined to landlords.

12. The Settlement Officer believes that the general feeling is that the record of-rights prepared at such trouble and expense should be maintained, and he himself is of opinion that if landlords are to be prevented from nullifying the record, it should be revised at an early date and thereafter kept up by periodical revision at shorter or longer intervals. The final decision of the question of revision and maintenance of settlement records generally must await the result of the experiment now being made in Orissa. The attention of the Board of Revenue is invited to the remarks and suggestions made in the report and in the Director's review

on the points mentioned below. Such of them as cannot be disposed of by the Board should be submitted to Government with their recommendations.

Point.	REFERENCE TO PARAGRAPHS OF—	
	Settlement Officer's Report.	Director's review.
(1) "Bhaisunda Mahals;" assessments of grazing fees	49	11
(2) Amalgamation of the revenue demands of amalgamated estates; suggested amendment of the Land Registration Act ...	75-76	...
(3) Comparison of the record of proprietary interests with the Collector's registers. Procedure under the Land Registration Act	150-53	...
(4) Combination of final publication with the work of recovery of costs ...	155	24
(5) Substitution of direct management for farming leases in Government estates ...	212	32
(6) Maintenance of records in temporarily-settled and Government Estates ...	213, 347 348	32
(7) Partition of Estates	285-88	39
(8) Concealment and dispossession of raiyats in estates now under the Court of Wards ...	77	...

The Director's remarks in paragraphs 5 to 7 of his letter, made with reference to paragraphs 7 and 8 of the Settlement Officer's report, relating to embankments, will be considered in the Irrigation Department.

13. In conclusion the Lieutenant-Governor desires to place on record his high appreciation of the services of Messrs. Kerr and Coupland, as Settlement Officers and of Messrs. Lister, Gourlay and Monahan as Assistant Settlement Officers in-charge. His Honour's thanks are also due to Major Crichton, who as Superintendent of Provincial Surveys rendered great assistance in all matters connected with the survey and initial record-writing, and to Mr. P. C. Lyon, Sir Charles Allen and Mr. S. L. Maddox, who as Director of Land Records, successively controlled the operations and contributed to their success. The Settlement Officer has specially mentioned many of the Assistant Settlement Officers, especially Pandit Rama Ballabh Misra, who deserves His Honour's acknowledgments and whose excellent services will be noted.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

F. W. DUKE,

Offg. Chief Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.